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INSIDE EIGHT PAGES FROM SUNDAY'S
The New York Times
WEEKLY REVIEW

Easing closure is a calculated risk, says Mordechai

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

EASING the closure while threats of a terrorist attack are still strong is a "calculated risk," said Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai yesterday, explaining why he decided to ease restrictions barring Palestinian workers from their jobs in Israel.

"It was the correct thing to do, to lift the closure of the territories and allow lives to return to normal as much as possible in Judea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. We are aware of the distress. We impose closures when we feel it is effective and can contribute (to security). We don't use closures as punishment," Mordechai said.

"The warnings and alerts remain in effect," he added, noting that security officials believe the closure had lost its effectiveness. By suffocating the Palestinian economy and had only a limited effect on the security threat.

Thirty-five thousand Palestinian laborers - 15,000 from the Gaza Strip and the rest from the West Bank - are now being allowed into the country. Only married males over 30 are being given permits, but thousands of others reportedly sneak past police and army roadblocks to look for jobs.

Speaking during a visit to the Tel Hashomer army base, Mordechai said the public is still urged to remain on alert for attacks.

"I can't say the dangers have passed. I can say the dangers still exist and we will do our utmost to deal with it," Mordechai said.

Raine Marcus adds:
Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz said the decision to ease the closure was "political and not a police or security decision. There was no choice but to accept the decision, but the police will not change its high alert and its large-scale security measures and countrywide deployment of forces, in light of warnings of terrorist attacks."

16-year-old suicide bomber price: \$50,000

PALESTINIAN security forces last month thwarted a suicide bombing attack in Israel by a 16-year-old Gaza boy, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat said yesterday.

Arafat told a visiting Histadrut delegation, led by labor federation chairman and MK Amir Peretz, that Islamic Jihad had offered the boy \$50,000 to carry out the attack. PA Justice Minister Fehi Abu Medein told the visitors that the boy's mother had contacted security officials out of fear for his life.

"We're talking about a family in the worst economic circumstances," Medein said. "The father has been out of work for over a year because of the closure. Islamic Jihad offered the boy \$50,000 - a huge sum in Gaza - to carry out the attack, and this is in addition to the brainwashing he put him through."

Medein said Arafat had given the family a check for \$3,000 and found work for the father with the PA. "But if the closure continues, there will be more cases like this, which we won't be able to stop in time," said Medein. (Itim)



Soldiers from Sgt. Erez Yitzhak's tank regiment cling to one another for support at his funeral in Netanya yesterday. (Asaf Shalev/Israel Sun)

3 more soldiers wounded in Hizbullah attack

DAVID RUDGE

THREE soldiers were wounded yesterday - one seriously and two lightly - when their tank was hit by a Sagger missile in the same area of the security zone where a similar incident occurred on Saturday, in which Sgt. Erez Yitzhak was killed and three members of his tank crew were hurt.

Yitzhak, 19, was laid to rest yesterday afternoon in the military cemetery of his hometown, Netanya. Hundreds of people attended the funeral.

As the service took place in Netanya, doctors and nurses at Haifa's Rambam Hospital and the Nahariya Government Hospital continued treating the injured. Rambam Hospital deputy director Dr. Zvi Ben-Elshai said that the soldier wounded in the neck in Saturday's attack was still in serious condition and was in the intensive care unit of neurosurgery department.

The second soldier wounded in Saturday's attack is being treated in the Nahariya hospital for light-to-moderate injuries. The third soldier was very lightly injured in the attack and received treatment in the field.

Ben-Elshai said Cpl. Yishai Ben-El, of Jerusalem, who was wounded yesterday, underwent prolonged surgery yesterday and

was afterwards expected to be transferred to the orthopedic department. Ben-Elshai said his condition was serious, but stable.

The two other soldiers hurt in yesterday's incident - Lt. Barak Ronen, of Haifa, and Cpl. David Fahima, of Ashdod - both suffered light wounds. Fahima, despite suffering from smoke inhalation, managed to rescue Ben-El from the damaged tank.

President Ezer Weizman visited the wounded in Rambam and Nahariya hospitals yesterday.

Hizbullah claimed responsibility both attacks in a statement stating that the attacks were launched to mark memorial day for all the "martyrs" of the Islamic Resistance, Hizbullah's fighting arm.

IDF and South Lebanese Army gunners pounded Hizbullah targets in the Jabal Batzil region, in south Lebanon's western sector, where the shooting originated. Reports from Lebanon said virtually all 400 residents of Yatar, south of the zone, fled their homes. There were no reports of any civilian casualties.

A number of the small villages in the area,

including Yatar and Kafra, are known to be Hizbullah strongholds. IDF and SLA gunners did not fire into the villages to avoid harming civilians.

Later, in the afternoon, IAF planes struck another Hizbullah stronghold - the Jabal Saffi region, in the eastern sector of south Lebanon.

The IDF Spokesman said the pilots reported accurate hits and all the planes returned safely to their bases.

Yesterday's incident occurred early in the morning while troops backed by armored vehicles were searching the area for the Hizbullah squads which carried out the attacks the previous day.

Two Hizbullah squads were involved in Saturday's incident. One of the units approached to within relatively close range of the Karkum post and opened fire with mortars and light weapons. A tank positioned alongside the outpost pulled out of the compound to return fire and was hit by a Sagger missile fired by the second squad from about three kilometers away.

Yitzhak was killed in the attack and his three comrades were wounded.

1 killed, 11 wounded as soldiers fire on Palestinian marchers

SOLDIERS shot one man to death and wounded 11 others yesterday during a protest over land expropriation by Ramallah area villagers.

About 200 Palestinian protesters, including elderly men and women from the villages of Kharbata, Naaleh and Deir Kadis, set off with placards from the central mosque of Deir Kadis toward Kiryat Sefer, two kilometers away, where bulldozers were ploughing up land for housing construction close to the Green Line. The villagers claimed that 2,000 dunams had been confiscated

JON IMMANUEL

for a new settlement. According to different eyewitnesses, about seven soldiers emerged from behind olive trees and told the protesters to halt, pushing them back. When they advanced a few meters, the soldiers threw tear gas grenades.

Some Palestinians responded by throwing a few stones. The soldiers then opened fire, they said, from no more than 10 meters, killing Atallah Amireh, a 36-year-old father of seven.

Friends of Amireh said that

when he was killed, he was carrying papers proving his family's ownership of land on which an extension of Kiryat Sefer is being built.

Ziad Hamed, an eyewitness who works in the Ramallah area District Coordinating Office, said the soldiers' reaction was inexplicable since the protest was coordinated with the Israeli authorities two days earlier and was announced in the newspapers yesterday.

Dor, an Israeli DCO officer, and Hamed separated the soldiers and (Continued on Page 2)

Levy to meet Christopher in Cairo

FOREIGN Minister David Levy will meet with outgoing US Secretary of State Warren Christopher, as well as with the foreign ministers of the European Community's "troika" - Holland, Ireland and Italy - when he flies to Cairo tomorrow for the international economic conference.

Levy will also hold a separate meeting with Italian Foreign Minister Lamberto Dini, with whom he met 10 days ago in Jerusalem.

Prime Minister Binyamio Netanyahu's adviser Dore Gold last night flew to Cairo for a meeting with President Hosni Mubarak's adviser Osama Baz. They discussed the peace process and measures to ensure that the Israeli participants in the economic conference would be well received, Channel 1 reported.

The Egyptian government must give domestic businesses the green light to trade with Israeli companies, Finance Minister Dan Meridor told delegates at the Jerusalem Business Conference. "Cairo must send signals to the Israeli people, Arab countries and the world that we are on the track of peace," he said.

After his speech, Meridor met Egyptian Ambassador Mohammed Bassiouny. They finalized details for a series of meetings between Meridor and senior Egyptian ministers, including the prime minister and finance

BATSHEVA TSUR, DAVID HARRIS, and news agencies

minister, and with leading businessmen and academics.

"Mubarak, meanwhile, made a thinly veiled call on Israel to adhere to its commitments, saying a Middle East peace settlement is the key to prosperity in the area."

Addressing a new session of parliament, Mubarak said: "Egypt was the first in the peace process and will continue its clear position to call for a comprehensive and just peace which ensures equality for all the people in the region."

Peace will provide security for everyone and will not be held up by those who are trying to destroy it, he said.

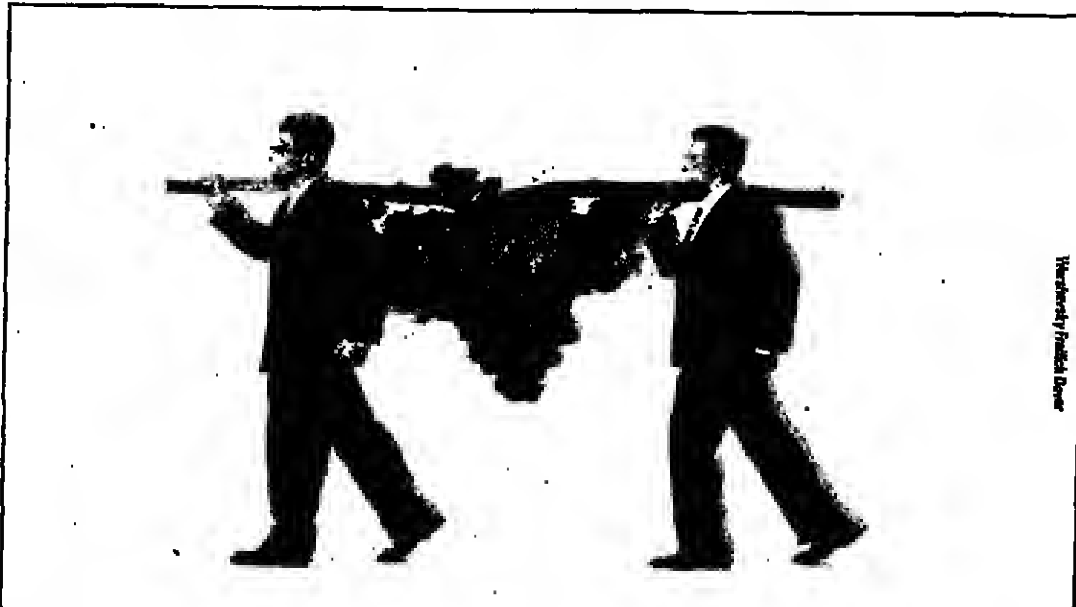
"We call on everyone to adhere

to their choice of peace as a strategic goal like us and that they do so practically by being committed to all agreements reached," he said.

Turning to domestic issues, Mubarak praised the rebuilding of the Egyptian economy and infrastructure following the signing of the 1979 peace treaty.

"Our people went through the battle of restructuring after all these wars, and it is one of the greatest rebuilding battles in the world," he said. "But we are not content with this. We have the bases to reach bigger goals."

"To a matter of years, Egypt changed from being a country, which had a deficit in resources and abilities, which bordered on bankruptcy, to become the largest country in the Middle East which attracts investments."



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Mordechai says Hebron violence not inevitable

DEFENSE Minister Yitzhak Mordechai rejected Israel Radio reports that senior security officials said an eruption of violence is inevitable in Hebron.

"I don't accept the approach that it will go up in flames no matter what. I know slogans like this from other places," Mordechai said. "I propose that all those who speak anonymously, speak openly. It is the responsibility of all security elements to do the maximum to provide physical and psychological security for the Jewish residents of Hebron."

"We must show responsibility, take reasonable risks, and transmit, both us and the Palestinians, that it is possible to live in the same area," Mordechai said.

Yesterday saw a cascade of leaks from anonymous police and General Security Service sources warning variously of an act of an extremist Jew in Hebron meant to torpedo the redeployment, and imminent bloodshed if the redeployment takes place and the settlement in Hebron is not removed.

The Prime Minister's Office hastened to denounce the views of these unnamed security sources. "The government's position is to ensure the continuation of the existence of the Jewish settlement in Hebron and [provide it] with protection," the prime minister's spokesman said. "All our positions in the negotiations are based on this clear aim."

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN and HERB KEINON

"In Israel, it is the government which decides on policy, not the various anonymous circles quoted in the media."

Environment Minister Rafael Eitan said he was "amazed" to hear reports that security officials are calling for the Hebron settlement to be uprooted. In an interview on Arutz 7, Eitan said, "The job of the officers is to provide security, not cave in. If they can't do that, they should go grow tomatoes or be bus drivers."

Settlement spokesmen in Hebron were furious over the leaks, as well as other reports that filtered out over the weekend, including that an extremist in Hebron is planning to assassinate Benjamin Netanyahu or Mordechai, or that Hebron residents Sarah Marzel and Elisheva Federman plan to set themselves ablaze to stave off redeployment.

Marzel, wife of former Kach head Baruch Marzel, said that these reports are ridiculous, and that as a religious woman she would never dream of taking her life or any one else's. Federman is the wife of Noam Federman.

"This is the most ridiculous type of propaganda," said Hebron spokesman David Wilder. "This is the type of propaganda Avishai Raviv carried out." Raviv was the alleged agent provocateur who the GSS reportedly planted in the extreme right prior to Rabin's

assassination.

"This is an attempt to try and convince people that we are crazy, present us as being out of our minds, to more easily take us out of here," Wilder said.

He speculated that the leaks are either coming from the top political echelon, in an effort to get the public used to the idea of uprooting the Hebron settlement, or from the upper military echelons, trying to press the political echelon to take the Jews out of Hebron.

In a related development, six descendants of Jews who lived in Hebron prior to 1929 went to the city as part of a Peace Now delegation and met with Mayor Mustafa Natshe yesterday. The delegation said that they do not see the present day settlers as the legitimate heirs to the property the Jews lost after the 1929 massacre.

Natshe said that Hebron is "suffering a great deal from the extremists who create problems in the city, but we are willing to accept Jews who are the owners of property in Hebron, and help them return and live in the city in peace, just as it was for 400 years, without discrimination or use of force."

Peace Now secretary Mossy Raz said Natshe told the group that Jews will be allowed to live in Hebron, just not the Jews that are there now.

Bill Hutman and Basheva Tsur contributed to this report.



Palestinians carry the body of Attalah Amireh, 36, who was shot to death by soldiers during a protest march against land confiscations yesterday.

Mordechai: We're trying our best to protect our troops

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

THE IDF is doing its best to give adequate protection to its soldiers in Lebanon, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said yesterday, but added that "nothing was perfect."

Twice in two days, Sagger anti-tank missiles fired by Hizbullah gunmen hit what the IDF considered to be heavily protected tanks. The first time was considered bad luck; the second has officers at the IDF Ordnance Corps worried. The upgraded Patton M-60, known in the IDF as Magach 7, was sent to serve in Lebanon alongside the Israeli Merkava tank, because its armor was thought to be adequate.

"Every protective system has its weak points and when it is hit then the protection does not answer the threat," Mordechai said.

"The IDF is in an ongoing war and anyone who needs proof of this just needs to see what is happening in Lebanon," Mordechai said.

The minister spoke after clambering aboard the "Nagmachon," purportedly the safest battle taxi in the world. Its armor plating is said to be impenetrable by today's weapons.

The IDF has deployed various vehicles in Lebanon, including armored jeeps and the Puma armored personnel carrier, which have saved lives.

"This is a good job," said welder Michael Polak, 55, as he worked on the hull of a Puma. "But more than that," continued Polak, who immigrated from Kiev 17 years ago, "My son's in Lebanon and I'd like to know that just as I'm machining this piece of equipment, he's being given the best protection possible."



Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

IDF unveils armored jeep

THE IDF has put Israeli-developed armor plating around the US-built Humvee and plans to use the jeep-like vehicle in southern Lebanon. The first armored Humvee, known as the Hamar in Hebrew, was shown to military reporters yesterday. Security sources said the vehicle is bulletproof and able to absorb shrapnel.

The US armed forces have reportedly considered armor plating the Humvee following their deployment in Somalia. But Israeli defense officials said the Hamar, which cost NIS 410,000 each and are assembled by the IDF Ordnance Corps, will be the first to be deployed on an active war front.

Arieh O'Sullivan

Counter-terror staff established

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last night set up a special joint staff, under his office, to combat terror. The staff is designed to coordinate all the various branches of the security forces that are involved with counter-terrorism. The new body will be headed by Maj.-Gen. (res.) Meir Dagan.

Basheva Tsur

MARCHERS

(Continued from Page 1)

protesters after the shooting, according to Haiman Arar, another marcher and Fatah activist.

The IDF issued a statement saying there was "a violent demonstration." According to the findings of an IDF investigation last night, the soldiers acted according to regulations.

March participants said all they did was keep walking when they were told to stop.

"That is a civil protest. They could have thrown gas grenades, or fired rubber bullets, but live bullets at 10 meters," Arar said.

The protest took place on public agricultural land in area B, away from population centers.

EXTREMISTS

(Continued from Page 1)

Wertzberger appealed the detention at the Ramle Military Court, arguing that the administrative detention order, signed by the OC Central Command, is a "draconian measure" meant "to quell legitimate dissent."

Former Kach activists said that Federman had already started a hunger strike at Ashmoret Prison. "Twenty administrative orders won't help them," one activist said defiantly. "We have people willing to come off the benches and go to Hebron."

Federman told Israel Radio that "they arrested me for no reason." Apparently [Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser] Arafat requested that they arrest me, and Bibi [Prime Minister Benjamin

Army seeks money to replenish arsenal

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

IN an effort to save money, the IDF has depleted its stock of weaponry to an "irrational" level, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai claimed yesterday. He said he wants more money from the government to replenish the arsenal.

Speaking at the Logistic and Technology Branch's main base near Tel Aviv, Mordechai said the IDF has reached a point where it can no longer devote the money it has in the past to research, development and procurement of sophisticated weaponry. The money is needed to restock its supplies.

"We have significantly progressed with very sophisticated weaponry for many years, by taking into account that we were doing it at the expense of supplies. The moment has come to change our priorities and say that not all our

funds shall go for armament and technological progress, but that we take some of it and direct to the areas which have been harmed for years," Mordechai said.

He also hinted at the growing tensions with Syria and the change in intelligence assessments that war is now more probable than previously thought.

"In light of what we see happening around us, it is now deemed that we take some of this money to increase the supplies," Mordechai said, adding that this included ammunition and logistical support for the Artillery Corps.

"I have allowed that very large sums be diverted from areas intended for armament to buying equipment because that is vital now," Mordechai said. "We are dealing with the national defense, not with propaganda."

Infiltrator from Gaza shot, wounded

Soldiers shot and wounded an 18-year-old who tried to cross into Israel from north Gaza yesterday. The youth apparently refused to respond to the soldiers' calls to stop and kept on walking. He was shot in the legs and taken to Barzilai Hospital in Ashkelon.

Itur

Palestinians don't sympathize with Federman's detention

BILL HUTMAN

ABED Khader Khatib, a leading Palestinian activist against administrative detention, yesterday expressed little sympathy for the latest administrative detainee, Kach spokesman Noam Federman.

Khatib drew a sharp distinction between Palestinians and Israelis who are jailed without trial. "As Palestinians, we see a difference between Palestinian and Israeli administrative detainees," said Khatib, head of the eastern Jerusalem-based Palestinian Prisoners Club.

"The detention of the Kach guy is an internal Israeli issue, which we see no reason to get involved with," Khatib said in a telephone interview. "Our fight is for the Palestinian administrative detainees, and we will do everything in our power to see them freed."

Over 14,000 Palestinians were jailed under administrative detention orders between the start of the intifada, in December 1987, and 1992, said Eitan Felner, deputy director of the B'tselem human rights organization. Today, some 270 Palestinians are being held under such orders, Felner said.

"The use of administrative detentions is not forbidden under international law. There are circumstances when it is considered a legitimate tool, to prevent an imminent danger or threat to a nation's security," Felner said.

Against the Palestinians, however, Israel for the most part misused administrative detention orders, holding people for years without trial, Felner said.

As for Federman, and other Jewish extremists who will reportedly be detained before the Hebron redeployment, it remains unclear whether the state is overstepping its authority, Felner said.

"We strongly oppose the use of administrative detentions against either Palestinians or Israelis as a punishment ... or when there is no clear danger to security, and other measures, such as house arrests or orders preventing persons from entering certain areas, could be used," he said.

Administrative detention orders against both Palestinians and Israelis are based on British Mandate emergency regulations, and allow for the detainee to be held for renewable periods of up to six months, according to Felner.

Faisal Hussein, the senior PLO official in Jerusalem, said he would prefer Israel did not use administrative detention orders against either Arabs or Jews. "I don't like it when either a Palestinian or Israeli is held without a trial," Hussein said.

"But if administrative detentions are going to be used against Palestinians, there is no reason they shouldn't also be used against Israelis," Hussein said.

EU troika concerned over peace process deadlock

AMMAN (AP) - European Union officials said yesterday they are concerned over the stalemate in Mideast peace talks and eager to see a swift Israeli troop redeployment in Hebron.

"We are concerned about the lack of momentum in the peace process," Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring told reporters on arrival here. "We want momentum back ... we want to see agreements being reached for the withdrawal of troops from Hebron."

Spring, whose country holds the rotating presidency of the 15-nation EU, was accompanied by Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van Mierlo and Italian diplomat Amadeo de Franchis, who is standing in for Foreign Minister

Lamberto Dini. The delegation arrived in the region as Israeli-Palestinian negotiations are stalemated over the West Bank city of Hebron, where 450 Jewish settlers live among some 100,000 Palestinians.

The so-called "troika" arrived from Syria and after their visit to Jordan, left for Gaza to meet PA leader Yasser Arafat. They are not visiting Israel due to the controversy over meeting Palestinian officials at Orient House.

After meeting with President Hafez Assad yesterday in Damascus, Spring told reporters: "We exchanged views on the situation of the Middle East peace process, with special emphasis on prospects of peace negotia-

tions on the Syrian track." He gave no details.

On arrival here, Spring told reporters and Assad discussed "prospects of renewing peace talks with Israel." But, he stressed, "We are not messengers between the Syrians and the Israelis."

In Jordan, the group met with King Hussein, who expressed gratitude for European peace efforts and stressed that, "such endeavors must be consolidated to remove all obstacles and enable peace to prevail." Europe has been seeking a broader role in regional politics and the EU recently appointed a special envoy to the Middle East.

Basheva Tsur contributed to this report.

Peretz, Arafat discuss increasing number of Palestinian workers

MICHAL YUDELMAN

HISTADRUT Chairman MK Amir Peretz and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat met yesterday and decided to act together to increase the number of Palestinian workers allowed into the country, in coordination with the security authorities.

The meeting took place in Gaza, where Peretz was received with warmth. Arafat complained of the delay in evacuating Hebron and implementing the Oslo agreements, and about the delay's implications on relations between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

The main problem he raised was the closure on the West Bank and Gaza, which causes the Palestinians \$9 million a day.

"Unfortunately, I did not hear an optimistic tone in Arafat's statement," Peretz said.

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Sinai Campaign Palestinians protest J'lem 'expulsion' remembered

BILL HUTMAN

JERUSALEM Palestinian leaders yesterday charged the government with systematically trying to force Palestinians out of the city, in a rare police-licensed demonstration outside the Interior Ministry's eastern Jerusalem office.

A major tool used against Palestinian residents of Jerusalem is the canceling of their identity papers when they leave the city for extended periods of time, protesters, headed by Faisal Hussein, the senior PLO official in Jerusalem, charged.

Husseini is scheduled to meet with Interior Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani shortly, to discuss this, among other issues.

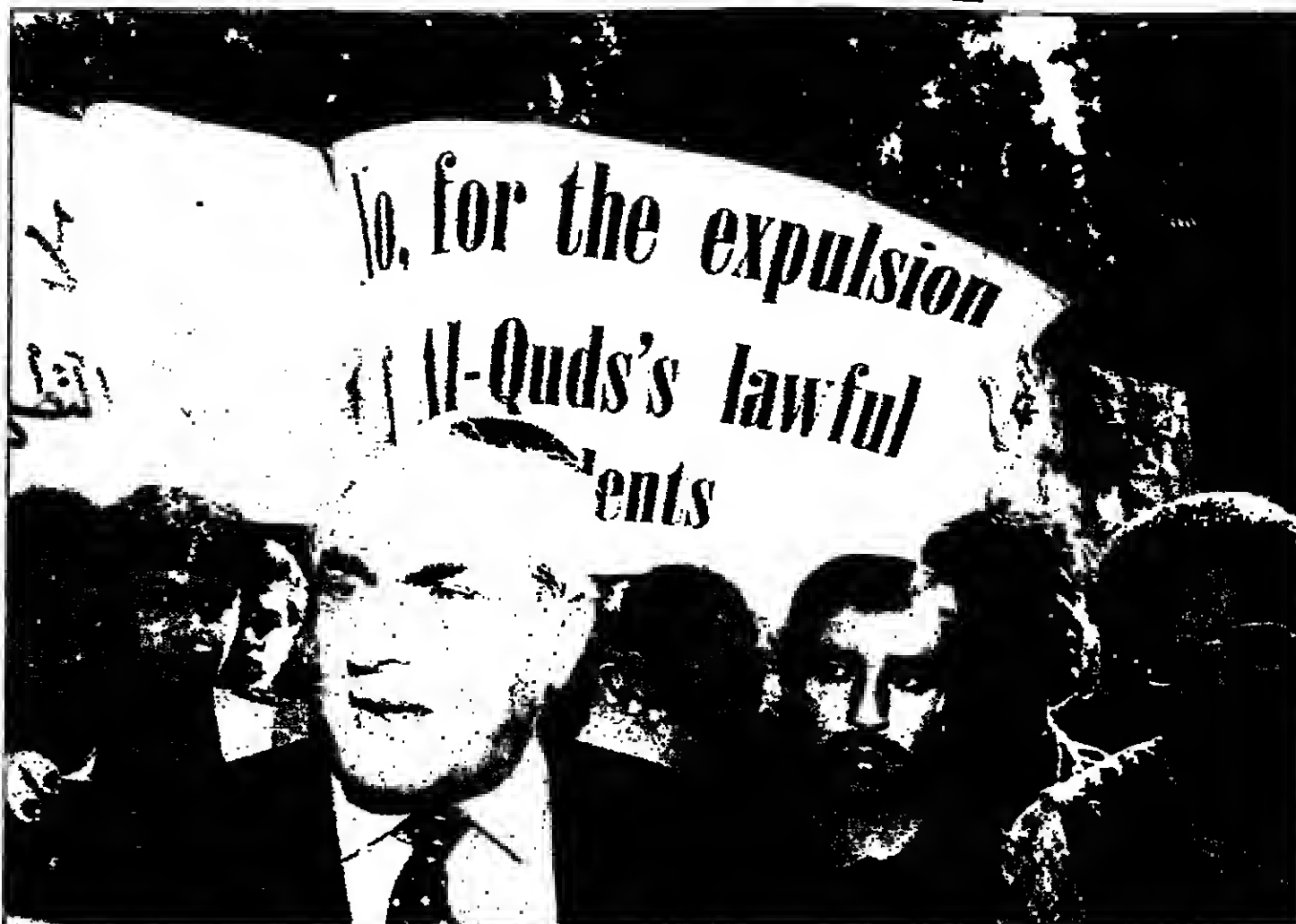
The two were originally slated to meet yesterday, but the meeting was canceled for "technical reasons," according to ministry sources.

Husseini first requested to meet with Kahalani just after the election, to present him with a long list of Palestinian complaints.

"Every Jerusalemite leaving the city for a long period of time, irrespective of his or her intentions, is threatened with losing the right to return to his or her hometown," the Palestinian Center for the Study of Nonviolence charged in a statement released at the protest.

Palestinians with Jerusalem identity papers who have moved to villages just outside the city limits also have their papers revoked, which then makes it difficult for them to enter the city, the group charged.

The allegation that the Interior Ministry is following a policy of stripping Palestinian residents of their identity cards is not new. The Palestinian leaders, however, charged that the alleged policy has recently



Faisal Hussein (l) leads some 50 protesters in a demonstration outside the Interior Ministry's eastern Jerusalem office yesterday. (Dana Hersh)

begun to be more strictly enforced.

Interior Ministry spokeswoman Tova Elinson sharply denied a new get-tough policy is being enforced. "The law concerning who can hold a Jerusalem identity card has been in effect since 1973, and there has been no change in how we enforce it," she said.

The law calls for Jerusalem

identity cards to be taken away from any Palestinian who lives outside the city for more than seven years, she said.

"The only difference today is that since the Oslo accords, many more Palestinians have tried to return to Jerusalem," at which time they discover their identity cards are no longer valid, Elinson said. She said several thousand Palestinians

fell into this category. Police sources, meanwhile, noted the protest was the first in years for which Jerusalem Palestinians had requested a police permit.

"Palestinians in this city are slowly beginning to realize that if they ask for a permit to demonstrate, we will grant it, as we do to other groups," a senior police source said.

About 50 protesters stood across the street from the Interior Ministry branch with placards.

On Thursday, a small bomb exploded at the entrance of the bureau, slightly wounding several people. Police sources said there are few leads in the case, and it remains unclear whether it was carried out by Jewish or Arab extremists.

HUNDREDS of relatives of the 172 soldiers who died in the 1956 Sinai Campaign gathered yesterday at Jerusalem's Mt. Herzl Military Cemetery to mark its 40th anniversary.

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon and Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron attended the main ceremony, which opened with the lighting of a memorial flame by the mother of one of the fallen.

"I was in the army at the time," Tichon said, "and I remember the depth of conviction that that war was just. We didn't struggle with it; we didn't regret it. We didn't pamper ourselves, and we didn't think of the bitter fate that forced us to go to war so shortly after the War of Independence. We believed in our leaders and our officers."

He stressed that the Sinai Campaign was a just war, since it was necessary to destroy the bases of the terrorists who were attacking across the Egyptian border and to open the Red Sea. The war, he added, accomplished these goals.

"The war had many names 40 years ago - the Sinai Campaign, Operation Kadesh, Operation Sinai - but for you, parents and children, it was a war, because what other name can you give to the thunder of tanks and the explosions of machine guns if not war?"

After the ceremony, Tichon spent some time with the bereaved families, including that of Maj-Gen. Assaf Simhoni, who was killed in the campaign, and whose son, who fell in the line of duty several years later, is buried in the same cemetery. (Jim)

Be careful with heaters, MDA warns

JUDY SIEGEL

SOME 140 Israelis were harmed by carbon monoxide emissions from their home heaters last year, according to Magen David Adom, which yesterday issued a warning to the public on how to avoid such accidents.

The problem is most serious in the colder, hilly areas in the country, said MDA, where the use of gas-powered (Junkers' type) and kerosene heaters is widespread. Most of the asphyxiation victims are families who turn on the heating device in the evening in a closed, unventilated room or apartment. The CO gas produced is colorless, tasteless, and odorless, and it is very poisonous.

The CO gas mixes with the

hemoglobin in the red cells of the blood, and takes control of the oxygen. Victims who have been most affected by the gas are rushed to the hyperbaric chamber in Haifa for the gas to be forced out of their bloodstream.

Symptoms of CO poisoning include nausea, headache, dizziness, vomiting, confusion, "drunkenness," breathing difficulties, faintness - in the most serious cases - loss of consciousness that can lead to death.

In the event of asphyxiation, MDA advises ventilating the area immediately, and calling MDA. If the victim is not breathing, perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation until the ambulance team arrive.



Meretz MK Walid Sadek (standing) and Moleket MK Rehavam Ze'evi take part in computer classes for MKs at Jerusalem's Hadassah College of Technology yesterday. (Avi Heyman)

MKs learn the basics about computers

JUDY SIEGEL

INFORMED by the Knesset's computer department that their offices would get a PC only if they learned how to use it, 10 MKs yesterday spent the day at Jerusalem's Hadassah College of Technology (HCT) for the beginning of a mouse-to-Windows course.

All MKs have been invited to take part in the three-day courses, held on Sundays and Thursdays, when the Knesset plenum does not meet. Many of them barely knew how to turn the machines on, let alone surf the Internet, but by the end of their studies, they are expected to know the basics about Windows and the Microsoft Word word processing program.

HCT teacher Meital Amzaleg's query "Who's a kette?" elicited witty and political jokes, but the patient computer expert was merely asking about who would not be able to click a mouse with the index finger of the right hand.

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon started the day with encouragement, but noted that anyone who

didn't study wouldn't get one of the 120 super-charged PCs purchased by the Knesset.

Yisrael Ba'aliya MK Professor Tzvi Weinberg, who is quite familiar with computers but wants to know more, said he would like to be in contact with constituents via e-mail, and also was seeking more information via the Internet for a book he is writing about antisemitism.

MK David Azouli of Shas agreed that computers could be a boon to politicians eager to put their finger on the pulse of voters, but admitted to not knowing much about them.

Yisrael Ba'aliya MK Yuri Stern said he first studied computers in school in Russia when one of them "filled a whole room," and that he wanted to become good at it.

Meretz MK Walid Sadek said he was "embarrassed" about his computer ineptitude when watching his children, who seemed to have been born with the machines. Sadek

complained that the lack of an Arabic-language interface had made it impossible to use the Knesset computers until now.

Arik Fischer, who heads the computer department, said an Arabic-language Dagesh program would solve Sadek's problem. About \$2 million was spent during the past year on equipment for MKs.

A Knesset Internet Site at <http://www.knesset.gov.il> will open at the end of this month, giving visual tours of the building, information about legislation and the opportunity to send e-mail to each of the MKs.

The most computer literate MKs in the House are Michael Eitan, Meir Shetreet and Ophir Pines, Fischer said. "Until now, most of the others have handed their computers over to their parliamentary assistants to work on, instead of using it themselves. Maybe now, with the course, it will be different."

Press Council, IMA review medical coverage ethics

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Israel Press Council and the Israel Medical Association are to jointly examine ethical rules dealing with coverage of medical matters. The examination follows media exposure of alleged medical scandals that, according to IMA chairman Dr. Yoram Blachar, have caused a "dangerous erosion in the confidence between patients and doctors."

Blachar said many doctors feel media exposure of alleged shortcomings makes the public think most physicians are incompetent or crooked, instead of reflecting the reality in which they dedicate themselves to saving lives and promoting health.

The topic was discussed recently in the first meeting of the heads of the council and the association with editors and reporters.

The doctors complained that "inaccurate information is being disseminated about clinical trials and new drugs, and that doctors are unable to react to media allegations against them because of the rule of confidentiality."

Among the "medical scandals" disclosed in the past year have been Hadassah-University Hospital hematologist Prof. Eliezer Rachmilevich's alleged refusal to treat the late cancer patient Dassy Rabinowitz; Rabin Medical Center-Bellinson Campus transplant surgeon Prof. Zaki Shapira's alleged involvement in the sale of donor organs; charges of racism against Magen David Adom doctors who did not inform Ethiopian immigrants that their donated blood was being discarded; and claims that the re-use of angioplasty equipment was endangering heart patients.

Prof. Amos Shapira, associate chairman of the Press Council, argued that if a patient decided to expose his medical file before the media, doctors or hospitals that treated the patient should be able to present their side of the story so journalists could check the facts.

But deputy IMA chairman Dr. Haim Solan opposed this proposal, saying that confidentiality is a major commitment in medicine, and if it is violated, whatever the circumstances, "the trust that the patient feels towards the doctor will be violated and there will be a crisis of trust with other patients as well."

Dr. Elitza Bartov, chairman of the government hospital doctors' association, suggested establishing an apparatus for

checking information supplied by medical institutions to the media, which is often used to get publicity but is not always accurate, and often raises unrealistic expectations in the public.

Ha'aretz editor Hanoch Marmari warned against the phenomenon of "defensive journalism," in which the media decline to publish stories for fear of lawsuits.

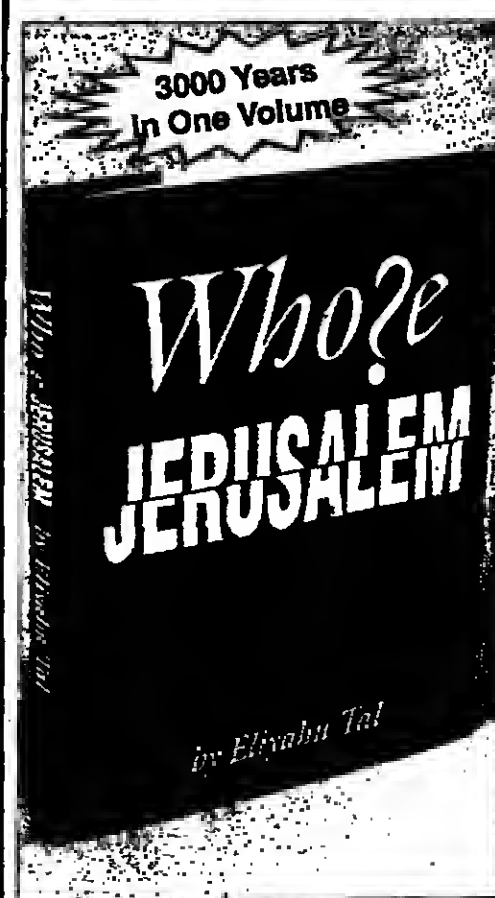
Press Council president Haim Zadok recommended setting up to joint forums to bring together

journalists and doctors. One would be headed by Shapira and include a newspaper editor, a reporter, and three representatives of the IMA.

This would look into the possibility of adding specific instructions to the ethical rules relating to medical matters.

The second would be a joint committee of health reporters and the IMA, which would examine complaints about unbalanced or inaccurate reporting that have caused harm to the public, doctors, or medical institutions.

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Israeli missing in Cairo after unidentified men grab him

CAIRO (AP) - An Israeli has gone missing in Cairo as the city is preparing for a massive regional economic conference, his brother and Israeli Embassy officials said yesterday.

Azam Azam, 35, a mechanic at the Egyptian-Israeli textile factory Tefron, was grabbed by unidentified men outside his hotel on Wednesday night, his brother, Wafa, said.

Wafa Azam quoted the driver of his brother's car as telling him that about 10 men, wearing civilian clothes and carrying walkie-talkies, approached the car in front of the Baron Hotel in suburban Heliopolis, where his brother was staying.

One of the men approached Azam Azam and asked him to show his passport, then grabbed him by the arm and shoved him into a car and drove off, Wafa Azam said. Another car followed them, he added.

He said he believed the men were

Egyptian security officials, noting that the driver was told this by tourist policemen who watched the seizure of his brother but did nothing.

The spokesman for the Egyptian Interior Ministry, which is responsible for internal security, said he had no reports of any missing Israeli citizen.

The Israeli Embassy confirmed that Azam Azam was missing and said it was in touch with Egyptian authorities to try to locate him.

"Azam is 100 percent innocent and has done nothing wrong," said Wafa Azam, who said he hasn't heard from his brother since he was taken. Wafa Azam, 36, manages the textile factory. The brothers have been living in Cairo for the past six months.

Azam Azam is married with four children, the brother said. His wife and children live in Mughar in the Galilee.

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Suspected gang blast kills 13 at Moscow cemetery

MOSCOW (Reuter) - Thirteen people were killed when a powerful bomb blast ripped through a crowd of mourners at a memorial service in a Moscow cemetery yesterday.

Police suspect organized crime gangs linked to Afghan war veterans' groups. Security officials said the dead included the widow, mother, and uncle of Mikhail Likhodei, a veterans' leader whose murder in a bomb blast on November 10, 1994, was being commemorated by about 130 people gathered around his grave.

Eleven people were taken to a hospital.

Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin went on television to condemn the carnage as a "terrorist act".

Conscious of the cost to his government and to the struggling Russian economy of virtually unfettered and endemic organized crime, he issued a public warning to Interior Minister Anatoly Kulikov to bring the bombers to justice.

"This is a challenge which cannot go unheeded," Chernomyrdin said, noting that Sunday was, ironically, Militia Day - an annual event honoring the work of the police. "The minister and his staff will draw the appropriate conclusions."

The prime minister, still playing a leading role as President Boris Yeltsin recovers from heart surgery, said he had canceled a televised concert in honor of Militia Day.

The bomb, equivalent to between two and five kg of high explosive, was placed under a table of food and drink and connected by wire to a detonator about 40 meters away.

Colonel Stanislav Zhorin of the Federal Security Service said Likhodei's successor as head of the Afghan War Invalids' Foundation was also killed by the blast which



Russian policemen stand next to the body of a victim killed in a Moscow cemetery bomb blast yesterday.

left a crater over a meter deep and nearly four meters wide.

"It was probably linked to a settling of old scores," Zhorin told reporters, referring to a dispute between rival Afghan war veterans organizations which were granted big tax exemptions to ease their commercial activities.

The head of another Afghan veterans' group told RIA news agency the bombing was caused by "clashing between criminal structures standing behind Afghan veterans' organizations".

He said many veterans' associations had turned to the mafia for help, finding the criminals were glad to help exploit the tax breaks given to such groups in their illegal businesses.

Scores of officials sealed off the blast site and used special equipment to scan the adjoining alleys in a search for any evidence and other explosive devices.

When Likhodei was killed in 1994 - a bomb was wired to the lift button of his apartment block - his wife Yelena and two bodyguards

were injured. Police have not yet solved the case.

The head of another Afghan war veterans' group which was involved in a dispute with Likhodei's group was recently wounded in an apparent assassination attempt, Interfax news agency said.

The incident was the latest in a series of explosions and gangland murders to rock Moscow during the difficult transition to a free market economy, which has been accompanied by a surge in the

crime rate.

US businessman Paul Tatum, locked in a dispute with Russian partners over ownership of a Moscow hotel where US President Bill Clinton has stayed, died in a hail of bullets at the entrance to a nearby underground station on November 3.

Contract killings of bankers, businessmen and even members of national and local parliaments are nearly an everyday affair in Russia. Most of them remain unsolved.

Slovenian PM's party projected election winner

LJUBLJANA (Reuter) Slovenian Prime Minister Janc Drovsek's center-left Liberal Democrats emerged yesterday as the biggest party in the second general election since independence from Yugoslavia, computer projections showed.

The projections, issued by Slovenian state television, showed Drovsek's party, in power for the past four years, with 27.3 percent of the vote, compared to 23.46% in the last general election in 1992.

The rightist People's Party, led by Marjan Podobnik, 36, came a close second with 26% of the vote, according to the projections.

The People's Party has called for caution in Slovenia's bid to join the European Union, saying farmers in particular should be protected from the full rigors of competition.

Drovsek, 46, crowned his four years as premier by signing an association agreement with the EU and said he hoped Slovenia would join the bloc by the year 2001.

Most other political parties have backed EU membership, but the People's Party, the farmers' champion, has been the most vocal in urging Slovenia not to rush headlong without thinking of the possible consequences for jobs.

"We are very happy. If the election results remain at a similar

level, we will have improved our share of the vote by 100%," Podobnik told Slovenian news agency STA. In 1992, the People's Party won 8.7% of votes.

Podobnik declined to be drawn on commenting on the formation of the new government, but with its strong showing his party looked likely to be a contender for inclusion in a coalition, shifting Slovenian politics to the right.

More than 1.5 million voters were eligible to vote in the election for the 90-seat parliament. The turnout on the dull, rainy voting day was estimated at almost 63 percent, compared to a high 85.8% in 1992.

The projections showed the center-right Social Democrats, headed by former defense minister Jansa, in third place with 14%, followed by the Christian Democrats with 9%.

The United List of Social Democrats, the former communists, took 5% of votes, with the DeSUS (repeat DeSUS) party, representing pensioners on 4%, the projections showed.

Slovenia, the northernmost and most ethnically-homogenous of former Yugoslavia's republics, has made strides under Drovsek's rule to become one of the most prosperous economies among Europe's ex-communist states, with an international credit rating similar to the Czech Republic and ahead of Poland.

Car bomb kills at least 15 in Algiers

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) - A car bomb exploded in an Algiers suburb early yesterday, killing at least 15 people and wounding at least 30, many of them children, security officials and hospital sources said.

Hours later, a second bomb was heard going off, but it was not immediately clear where. Both explosions could be heard throughout most of the city.

The first bomb exploded near a bus stop where a bus full of travelers was stopped, the officials said. The site was also right near a school, and some of the killed and wounded were children.

Hospital sources said 15 people were killed, four of them children, and at least 30 wounded - many also children. The official death toll was 11.

Buildings near the site were heavily damaged and glass from windows of the bus was scattered 500 meters away.

No one claimed responsibility for the bombing in Thieraine, a suburb east of Algiers, or the second explosion. But suspicion fell

on Moslem militants waging a 4 1/2-year-old insurgency against the government.

The uprising began when the government canceled January 1992 parliamentary elections that the Islamic Salvation Front was expected to win. Fighting since then has killed more than 60,000 people.

The government of President Liamine Zerrouk has sought to show it is quelling the violence ahead of a Nov. 28 referendum that would outlaw parties based on religion, or "linguages." The Islamic Salvation Front has been banned since 1992.

Yesterday's explosions came the day after a call for peace in Algeria signed by 30 well-known figures, including former President Ahmed Ben Bella and former Prime Minister Mouloud Hamrouche. It deplored the "tens of thousands of dead, the mangled, the widows, the orphans, the political detainees and (other) victims of the cycle of violence and repression" in the country.

DeBakey says Yeltsin on road to recovery

MOSCOW (AP) - President Boris Yeltsin will likely be discharged in about 10 days from the hospital where he is recovering from quintuple bypass surgery, the Kremlin doctor said yesterday.

Dr. Sergei Mironov told Russian television that the president would finish recuperating at his country residence in Barvikha, outside Moscow.

By all accounts, the 65-year-old Russian leader is making a good recovery from his Nov. 5 operation. Doctors say he could be back at work in the Kremlin by the end of the year.

The president's daughters, Tatyana Dyachenko and Yelena Okulov, told the independent station NTV last night that Yeltsin was doing well, but had little appetite and was still in some pain.

They said they had lunch with him yesterday. Mironov said Yeltsin is spending several hours a day sitting up, is walking around his suite at the Kremlin hospital, and is slowly increasing the amount of exercise he gets.

The American consultant on the case, Dr. Michael DeBakey, said yesterday Yeltsin is "out of the woods" and on his way to a complete recovery. DeBakey, the 88-year-old heart surgery pioneer, said the Russian president would be a "new man" following the operation last Tuesday. "He's got a good normal heart now, so you see he's going to be a new vigorous man," DeBakey said before flying home to Houston. "He is in my opinion, as we say, out of the woods."

Zairean rebels agree to humanitarian corridor

KIGALI (Reuter) Zairean rebels have agreed to open up a humanitarian corridor to reach more than a million Rwandan and Burundian refugees trapped and scattered by fighting in eastern Zaire, a UN official said yesterday.

Omar Backhet, resident representative of the UN Development Program (UNDP) in Rwanda, told Reuters the first assessment teams to check on humanitarian needs and security would enter rebel-held eastern Zaire today. "We have reached an agreement with them (rebels) and we'll be sending in assessment teams first thing tomorrow. The teams

will be made up of non-governmental agencies and within a day or two UN agencies should be able to go in as well," Backhet said.

Backhet spoke shortly after UN special envoy Raymond Chretien returned to the Rwandan capital on a mission he said was aimed at narrowing differences between Rwanda and Zaire on the war in western Zaire.

The medical charity Medecins sans Frontieres (Doctors without Borders) said earlier yesterday that Rwanda had authorized aid agencies to deliver food and medicines from its territory to the rebel-held east.

Beirut's Casino du Liban to reopen next month

BEIRUT (Reuter) - Casino du Liban, the Middle East's most famed entertainment establishment before the 1975-90 civil war, will reopen next month after a stoppage of more than 20 years, Compagnie du Casino du Liban has said.

Compagnie du Casino du Liban said in a statement published at the weekend, that the casino would open its doors to the public on December 4, a day after the official reopening cere-

mony by Lebanese President Elias Hrawi.

"The new casino will be one of the most luxurious tourist entertainment centres in the Middle East," Mabib Letayef, president of the Compagnie du Casino du Liban, said in the statement.

The casino, Lebanon's pre-war symbol of high life, closed at the start of the civil strife. Famed for spectacular shows that featured skimpily-clad

women, as well as fountains, fireworks, elephants and dolphins, it was badly damaged in battles between rival Christian militia forces during the war.

One militia used the casino for private television shows.

Io May, Compagnie du Casino du Liban signed a \$50 million syndicated loan agreement with 10 Beirut banks to finance the rehabilitation of the casino, which overlooks the picturesque bay of Jounieh north of Beirut.

The statement said that the casino would have gaming rooms with 60 tables and 318 slot machines as well as five restaurants.

A 1,200-seat theatre and an entertainment hall for 750 spectators and two more restaurants are expected to be completed in 1997, it added. A five-star hotel overlooking the bay will also be built.

The casino has contracted London Club International and Lebanon's Albert Abella to manage the gaming and catering.

Berlin marks anniversary of Kristallnacht

BERLIN (Reuter) Berlin Mayor Eberhard Diepgen said yesterday the German nation had utterly failed in its duty to protect its own citizens 58 years ago when Nazis ransacked Jewish shops and synagogues on "Kristallnacht."

Speaking at a ceremony marking the 58th anniversary of Kristallnacht, Diepgen said the state was no longer civilized when it allowed Germans to attack Germans.

"The 9th of November and what followed will remain in our hearts and minds as a warning," Diepgen said in his address at the Jewish community center. "Intolerance can never again be accepted."

The Nazis looted more than 7,000 Jewish shops and burned hundreds of synagogues across Germany on November 9, 1938.

The attacks were remembered at numerous ceremonies at Jewish community centers and cemeteries in Berlin, a city where the Jewish culture thrived before the Nazis took power.

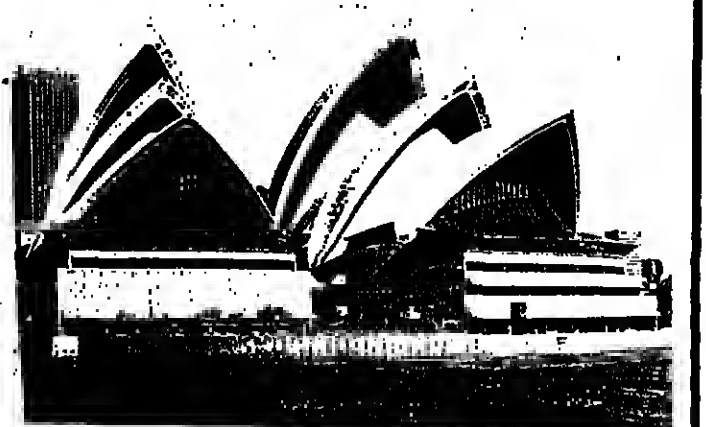
Berlin was one of the world's 10 largest Jewish centers and many of Germany's leading scientists were Berlin Jews. There were about 160,000 Jews in Berlin in 1933, but only 1,400 were still in the city in 1945.

The rest emigrated or were killed in Nazi death camps. The size of the Jewish community in Berlin is now about 10,000.

Several hundred left-wing demonstrators, accompanied by hundreds of police officers, marched in the Moabit district of west Berlin carrying signs reading "Don't let anyone forget" and "Prevent pogroms, kill racism."

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Hardly Hardy

FILM REVIEW
ADINA HOFFMAN

JUDE

*1/2

Directed by Michael Winterbottom. Screenplay by Hossein Amini, based on the novel *Jude the Obscure* by Thomas Hardy. 120 minutes. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Not recommended for children.

With Christopher Eccleston, Kate Winslet, Liam Cunningham, Rachel Griffiths

THOMAS Hardy's last novel and perhaps his most haunting, *Jude the Obscure* is the story of the gradual strangulation of a poor man's desires, both by his own hand and the law. At the start of the 1896 book, the orphaned village boy, Jude Fawley, longs desperately to study at the university; he struggles to teach himself Latin and Greek, and just at the point when his dreams of traveling to the nearby college town of Christminster seem within reach, he falls for a lusty local girl and is trapped into marrying her.

The match is a bad one, "a gin" writes Hardy "which would cripple him, if not her also, for the rest of a lifetime." Soon enough, though, Arabella picks up and leaves for another continent, and a half-broken Jude vows again to strike out for the city and become a scholar. Yet once in Christminster, he's distracted from his studies by the need to earn money and by the proximity of his pretty, intellectual cousin, Sue Bridehead. While the two become close friends, Jude clearly feels much more for Sue. Still technically a married man, he adores her, even after her own wedding to an older man. Eventually the two do come

together, though it's clear from the outset that their bond is doomed as well. Not only is society pitted against the adulterous couple of cousins, but an ancient and deadly curse lies over their family. The Fawleys, an old aunt warns them, were not meant to marry. And to add private insult to public injury is Sue's own frigid character (an exasperated Jude describes her as "a phantasmal, bodiless creature"). When they are at long last allowed to be alone with each other, Sue shudders at his touch.

One of the wiser decisions made by Michael Winterbottom in his new screen version of the great novel was to drop "the Obscure" designation from Hardy's title. If nothing else, the director seems to understand that the nice, dull hero played by Christopher Eccleston in *Jude* is a far cry from the dark, tortured soul whom Hardy conceived. Then again, the film's entire relationship to the original is tenuous at best: it contains characters and events reminiscent in a superficial way of those in the novel. Tonally, rhythmically, emotionally, formally, however, no serious movie could possibly be so ill-attuned to the thrust of the book that it sets out to capture on screen.

Less an adaptation than a poor paraphrase, the script by Hossein Amini dutifully charts Jude's progress from town to town through Hardy's Wessex. But the screenwriter works hard to banish most traces of the slow-seeping and somehow exquisite doom that surrounds the Jude of the book. Aside from skipping erratically from big event to big event with



Doomed love: Sue Bridehead (Kate Winslet) and her cousin Jude Fawley (Christopher Eccleston)

little attention to motivation, mood or logic (if you aren't familiar with the twists and turns of the novel, you may find yourself lost as you watch the film), Amini makes the characters speak a flattened-out modern English that lacks all the inner tension and ornate Victorian menace of Hardy's own dialogue.

We barely have time to figure out who the title character is or what his intellectual ambitions are—that is, how much he stands for—before Arabella (Rachel Griffiths) is flirtatiously flinging pig entrails at him and luring him down for a quick tumble on the barn floor. And almost as soon as they're together, she splits. Not once do we sense Jude's profound frustration at being ensnared, let alone the lasting legal and social ramifications of their failed marriage.

The situation doesn't improve much when Jude arrives in Christminster. As Sue, Kate Winslet (the pen-

ultimate second half of the *Sense and Sensibility* duo) is lovely; she's also completely wrong for the part. Her full lips, milk-fed cheeks and spirited manner stand in direct opposition to the jittery, sex-scared walf described in the book. Given the way she hoists her skirts and chases Jude down the beach with a whip of dripping seaweed, it's impossible to believe that she's chilly in bed. The character's "bodiless" quality comes to seem something of a joke in fact as Winterbottom focuses on her prone, naked form, or during the scene when Sue is in labor: she moans and groans as the picture remains fixed on the bloody mess gushing from between her legs.

Clearly, Winterbottom aims to knock the costume-drama genre from off its high, stuffed chair. That's a noble enterprise, surely, but one that demands a good deal more from a director than that he pick up a classic and a hand-held camera and jiggle them both

around. And it's possible, too, to misread a novel and still emerge with an interesting movie. Witness, say, Roman Polanski's *Tess*, which may have veered in spirit from Hardy's *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* yet still boasted the director's own mesmerizing pacing, his archly fluid visual sense and creepy-carnal fascination with his heroine's feelings of guilt.

As he demonstrated much more effectively in his recent *Butterfly Kiss*, Winterbottom takes a jumpy, quick-tempered view of character and storytelling; his people tend to act suddenly, violently and for no apparent reason, and his images knock against one another with similar abruptness. It's an approach that worked well in a film about a couple of lesbian serial killers cruising the highways on a hudgeoning spree, but makes next to no sense at all when it comes to conveying the prolonged spiritual and sexual agony of lonely Jude Fawley.

NEWS OF THE MUSE

Orna Porat honored

Today, actress Orna Porat will be awarded an honorary doctorate by the Weizmann Institute. The woman who founded the Orna Porat Children and Youth Theater in 1965, and who has illuminated our stages for close to 50 years, was named for her rich contribution to Israeli culture.

"This comes on the heels of a successful tour to Vienna, with the Israel Yiddish Theater production of *Mirale Efrat*, the Yiddish classic in which she plays the title role. And, she'll debut as a director when her production of *The Miracle Worker* opens at CYT on November 20.

Helena Kaye

Ballet for youngsters

Mossogorsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition* opens at the Holon Theater on November 27. The Young Kibbutz Dance Company is presenting the new piece, choreographed by Alan Avdon, to his popular audience of dancers for youth: *Peter and the Wolf*, *Carnival of the Animals* and *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*.

In memory of Dan Zakheim

The Interdisciplinary Arts Foundation has announced the establishment of the Dan Zakheim Memorial Prize. The first prize is NIS 15,000, and the applications close on December 31. The fields are performance, installation, video, multimedia. Zakheim, a performance artist, a filmmaker, and founder of Shelter 209—which specialized in performance art—died in 1994.

Coppola gets literary

Hollywood director and producer Francis Ford Coppola will publish his own literary magazine. The man behind *The Godfather*, *Apocalypse Now*, *Peggy Sue Got Married* and *Bram Stoker's Dracula*, will call his new New York-based magazine *Short Stories*. Each issue will contain about 10 stories.

Former *Paris Review* staffer Adrienne Brodeur will be the magazine's editor. She says that new writers will be encouraged to send in their work. And, she adds, if a particular story captures Coppola's imagination, he may make "an editorial referee" to put it on screen. Previously, in the late 1970s, he occupied his spare time by buying up a restaurant, a vineyard in Napa Valley, California, and part of Belize.

Natural Born Pugilists

Film stars Bill Murray and Woody Harrelson hit the headlines recently when they allegedly beat up a poet in a London pub.

According to the *London Daily Mail*, the actors were quietly drinking in a London bar when a local poet named Phil Dierthox took to the stage and began ranting verse which many found disagreeable. *Ghostbusters* star Murray was so incensed by Dierthox's poetry that he grabbed a fire extinguisher and turned it on the poet. As fists flew, Harrelson—famous for his rampaging violence in *Natural Born Killers*—then weighed in, punching Dierthox and breaking his nose.

Tom Gross

How a master cellist escaped into music

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

CELLIST Robert Cohen is one of the major musicians of our time. His impressive discography includes an Elgar cello concerto which in England alone sold more than 200,000 copies.

Last year Londoner Cohen amazed Haifa music lovers in his rendition of the Dvorak cello concerto, which he performed as if we were hearing it for the first time.

Now he is in Israel again playing the Schumann cello concerto with the Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba tonight and tomorrow in Beersheba, and Saturday at the Tel Aviv Museum.

Cohen insists that he was not a child prodigy.

"I enjoyed playing football and I was never pushed by my parents to do anything. But then again I did play the Saint-Saens cello concerto when I was eight and I made the Royal Festival Hall at 12, so maybe that explains why some

people say I was a child prodigy."

He was very sure from an early age though that music would be his life. His musician parents "asked me when I was young if I was sure I wanted to be a musician and I was positive about it. I enjoyed being on that platform and communicating through the cello, I never had any stage fright."

In an age in which musicians are desperate to be famous and would do anything to achieve stardom, Cohen is an almost endangered species: a musician who is first and foremost interested in genuine music playing.

"The most important thing for me is to be genuine to myself. The most interesting thing for me is to play a concert where people would have an experience they will never forget. Music playing is not a show or a circus where you make a momentary impact. I believe passionately in doing untraditional things. I avoid tradition like the plague."



Robert Cohen: Children have affected his playing.

Yet he laments that music is "much more shallow and superficial these days. Music is a creative and recreative thing. We need to escape into music. After all fashions in music, as in anything, else change. We must be above these changing trends."

Cohen, 37, is the father of three young sons "who keep me young." He adds that "I have changed my sense of values since they were born. It affects the way I think about music and I like it. I'm more open and flexible in creating music."

Tel Aviv to Rome: A prodigy's journey

HELENA KAYE

GIL Shohat fought against becoming a musician, and lost.

He abandoned mathematics. He left psychology. And at 23, he's both a concert pianist and a composer.

"That's what I am, it's like body and soul," he says, "and if I had to choose between them, it would be like murdering an essential part of my personality."

Tomorrow, the Ra'anana Symphony will play the premiere of his *Concertino* for violin and orchestra, a seven-part suite which owes its inspiration to oriental Jewish music. The 20-minute work is part of a concert of Jewish music which includes pieces by Starer, Halevi and immigrant composer Ze'ev Bitkin.

Concertino uses fragments of old Ladino folksong or liturgy, and is the third piece he's written this year "which is based on Jewish sources. I grew up in 'wicked' Tel Aviv, and I'm not religious, but all the same I was drawn to the religious sources. My father is Iraqi and I remem-

ber the melodies they sang from synagogue."

His father is a school principal and his mother a respected journalist. A gifted child "who still loves science," Shohat started studying math and psychology at Tel Aviv University when he was 17, as well as teaching music courses at the Open University, which he still does.

Then he quit for music. He started studying piano at seven and wrote his first piece at 12. It's a fantasy for piano called *Storm*, very melodic and written in response to a program of contemporary music "with all those dissonances."

He won his first prize for piano playing at 15, and at 16 was awarded the first of the scholarships that still sustain him.

He got his bachelor's and then his master's degree from the Rubin Academy, and currently he's studying for an advanced degree in piano and composition at Rome's Santa Cecilia Academy, on a scholarship from the Italian government.

He has been in Italy for two years, the first time that Shohat



All eight of the pieces written by Gil Shohat since 1985 have been performed.

has been away from home for such a long period.

It was a small revelation to discover a world that "doesn't speak your language" (he now speaks fluent Italian), and a release "to have to fend for myself. In Israel I

was pretty much wrapped in cotton wool. I went to Italy because people were always asking me 'what will you do? How can you play and compose?' and I can't believe that that a person who's close to himself [to who he is], will reach what he wants. Practically speaking, whether I get known for one or the other isn't important, but let's say that if I had to teach—it would be composition."

He practices some four to six hours a day before a concert, but when he composes "there is no time. I think and think about the work in my head, but when I come to write it, I usually don't rewrite."

All eight of the pieces he has written since 1985 have been performed here or abroad, and not every Israeli composer can say as much. Not that Shohat spends all his time with crotchets and quavers. He loves the beach, movies, friends, and TV. "I'm plugged in," he says, happily scooping up the last lick of whipped cream from his hot chocolate. "Too plugged in, I sometimes think."

Israeli actress plays Nazis and their victims in one-woman show

TOM TUGEND
LOS ANGELES

ONE moment, Israeli actress Rita Zohar is a German *hausfrau*, animatedly explaining why the Jews were responsible for their own misfortune. The next moment, the actress is a Jewish concentration-camp inmate, desperately hiding half a potato to feed her child.

In *Testimony*, her one-woman show, Zohar runs the emotional and character gamut of a score of German and Jewish women, connected through their common exposure to Nazi rule, albeit from vastly different perspectives.

Dressed in black blouse and skirt, Zohar's only prop on the bare stage is a black half-blanket, which serves alternately as a cradled baby or a flirtatious shawl.

She has drawn her material from two sources. One is Alison Oving's book *Frauen: German Women Recall the Third Reich*.

The other, according to the program, is "The story of a woman named Malka." The program tells us nothing about Malka, and is equally reticent about the actress, noting only that she was born in a concentration camp.

In conversation, Zohar reluctantly filled in some of the gaps in her background. But it was already obvious from her stage presence that here was a woman who had seen some of the worst and best of the human species.

The best is represented by Frau Gottlieb, who notices a forlorn Jewish woman at a restaurant and hides her for the rest of the war, at immense risk to herself and her family.

Her opposite is another German middle-aged woman, who recalls with shining eyes the greatest moment of her life, when she shook hands with the Fuehrer himself, and how he only wanted to resettlement the Jews, all of them filthy rich, in Madagascar.

In between, there is a German

countess who loves uniforms and bestows her favors equally on German and American soldiers.

There are other characters, familiar to anyone who lived in Germany in the 1930s. One is the Jewish doctor, recalled by his daughter as a patriot, who identified so completely with the German people that he took his family to a research clinic where pseudo-scientific measurements might prove that they were really "Aryans."

Zohar rings the changes on these different characters with impressive fidelity, versatility and intelligence. Cumulatively, she ratchets up the emotional intensity to the point where one wishes she had allowed time for an intermission for audience decompression.

Her portrayal of the strength of Jewish women under bellish conditions is based on the stories of "Malka," the actress's own grandmother, who, with her daughter and granddaughter, were the only ones of the family to survive World War II.



Rita Zohar draws on her grandmother's stories.

Zohar herself was born in the Balta concentration camp, near Odessa. Her parents had been deported there from Czernowitz,

then under Romanian control, in 1942. At four, she started to earn her bread by performing with a Yiddish theater group in displaced persons' camps, alongside her actress mother. Finally reaching Israel in 1950, she continued to perform in Yiddish, until "rebellious" against her mother tongue at 16 and turning to the Hebrew stage.

She joined the Cameri, acting in plays by Ephraim Kishon and Itzik Manger and a string of European and American authors.

At the same time, she launched her film career, and in 1990 won the Best Actress award from the Israeli Academy and at the International Film Festival in Salerno, Italy, for her role in the film *Laura Adler*. Now a truly international artist, she performs in Yiddish, German, Hebrew, English, Spanish and Romanian.

Her wish to first write and then act in *Testimony*, she said, grew out of her interest in the often overlooked part both German and

Jewish women played in sustaining the Nazi regime on one side, and its victims on the other side.

The play was booked for a one-

month run at a small theater in Hollywood, after which Zohar hopes to take *Testimony* to both Germany and Israel.

SEE IT IN HEBREW HEAR IT IN ENGLISH!

MIDNIGHT PRAYER (TIKKUN HATZOT)
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A story that deals with the identity crisis of a young Sephardi man torn between the ultra-orthodox Ashkenazi sect that adopted him and the orthodox Ashkenazi communities in Israel today.

HEFETZ
November 26, 1996 at 8:30 p.m.

A new play by Israel's leading playwright, Hershon Levin. Hefetz, a relative and tenant in Tzahalach and Chlaimans's apartment, threatens to commit suicide when he is excluded from his relatives' wedding plans. Will he jump?

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In America, only the brave try life without the tube

NORA ZAMICHOW

THERE are people who have no idea that Jamie and Paul's marriage is on the rocks; who didn't see Ross and Rachel kiss; and who don't know that George's fiancée died. (The glue on her wedding invitation envelopes turned toxic.)

These people are in the 1.7 percent of American households without a TV set. There are fewer of them than there are people without telephones. They are clueless about the characters other Americans know by first names.

And they are proud of it. Television so dominates Americans' lives that the average US household has a set turned on for seven hours each day. Two-thirds of Americans watch television while

eating dinner and studies show that more than half of four- to six-year-olds would rather watch television than spend time with their dad.

Many—particularly parents concerned about their children's addictive viewing—have considered pulling the plug. But only a brave handful ever do.

So, as Jerry (Seinfeld) is fond of asking: Who are these people?

They're folks like 36-year-old Rita Manley of Escondido, California, who found herself trying to communicate with her son and daughter during the commercial breaks. And Bill Peden, a 23-year-old aspir-

ing actor from Los Angeles, who hates the way television dominates everyone else's living room.

Prof. Robert Benson of Calabasas, California, is so convinced that television has trivialized culture and shortened his students' attention span that "if I were president, I'd introduce legislation in Congress to vastly restrict the number of television hours to a few hours every night."

Sarah Vigil, nine, of Denver, is growing up in a TV-free home. At times, the strain of being so unusual has been difficult. One afternoon last year, she returned from her private school in tears.

"I don't know what's going on!" she cried. "I don't know what anyone is talking about." Her mother, a toy distributor, comforted her, soothing her with talk of how many books Sarah had read that her third-grade classmates had not. They don't know what's going on, her mother told her.

Now Sarah touts her family's quality-of-life decision like a special badge. It doesn't mean she can't watch TV—she sees it at friends' houses.

"When people find out we have no TV, their mouths hang open," she said. "It doesn't bother me. I love reading. Whenever I have nothing to do I read or play on the computer."

(Los Angeles Times)

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Altered states

SLOWLY but surely, a murky picture is emerging of the government's perspective on the central question in the permanent status talks to come: the nature of the Palestinian entity.

Hint No. 1: In private remarks to foreign ambassadors quoted in Friday's *Ha'aretz*, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu stated that the Palestinian entity which will arise from the permanent status talks will be "on the model of a state like Puerto Rico or Andorra... It is not correct that the choice is between unrestrained self-determination on one hand, and occupation and military repression on the other."

Hint No. 2: In a fascinating exchange in a recent late-night Knesset debate, now-Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi said, "It may be possible to arrive at a wide national consensus, that does not include recognition of a Palestinian state like any state which we know in our world today - and instead is more generous regarding the independence of the Palestinian entity and less exacting on matters of symbolism relating to sovereignty - such as passports, stamps, coins, and so on. And if, on the other hand, there were less stubbornness and less toughness by the other side on the subject of security - which in our eyes is a life and death issue - then certainly it is possible to create the widest possible national consensus, that would include MK Beilin and even MK Rivlin, who has become more extremist than I in recent months."

Hint No. 3: In his recent testimony before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Foreign Minister David Levy listed three absolute rejections: no return to the 1967 borders, no uprooting of settlements, and no division of Jerusalem. Conspicuously absent from this list was a categorical rejection of a Palestinian state.

What can be concluded from the statements and ooo-statements above by the prime minister and two of his most important ministers? Let us try to read the tea leaves.

Netanyahu referred to Puerto Rico, an island of almost four million people, which is a commonwealth of the United States. Its chief of state is US President Bill Clinton; it has a governor, a legislature, and a flag, and is represented in the US Congress by one representative.

Andorra, a city of less than 100,000 people located between France and Spain, is a principality. It has two heads of state (called "princes"): the president of France and the Spanish bishop of Seo de Urgel, who are represented locally by officials called *veguers*. Andorra is a parliamentary democracy, a member of the United Nations and other international bodies, and has its own flag and other symbols of sovereignty.

While Puerto Rico and Andorra represent somewhat different levels of independence, neither is responsible for its own defense. In

Andorra's case, defense is the responsibility of France and Spain; for Puerto Rico it is the United States.

For the Netanyahu government, as for all previous Israeli governments, the principle problem with a Palestinian state has been the issue of security.

As Netanyahu explained in the same session with the ambassadors, "It is said that Israelis are split regarding the creation of a Palestinian state, but... if the supporters [of a state] are asked if they would agree to an army of a certain strength, or to allow the Palestinians to import certain weapons, to sign agreements with Iran, or to drill into the water table - then they oppose [a state]. ... I know of no state that is completely demilitarized."

In other words, pro-state Israelis want to have their cake and eat it too; they want to give Palestinians statehood, but without certain aspects of sovereignty that could threaten Israel's security. The Netanyahu team seems to be trying to throw cold water on this dream. It is saying that either there is no such animal, or that you have to look to obscure examples like Andorra for a precedent.

In fact, it is not exactly true that there is no internationally accepted model for limiting the sovereignty of an independent state, even in the security area. Arms control treaties by definition place limits on the right of sovereign states to arm themselves.

History is replete with treaties, such as the Versailles Treaty, that failed miserably in restraining the buildup of armaments. Yet these failures generally reflected the failure of the threatened parties to enforce the treaty, rather than of the treaty itself. (Winston Churchill wanted to call World War II "The Unnecessary War" for this reason.) It is not obvious that the enforcement of a demilitarization agreement would be more difficult with a state than with an autonomous entity with many aspects of independence.

The Netanyahu government, contrary to those who accuse it of having no vision of the future of the peace process, is definitely struggling to come up with one. Clearly, serious thinking is going on, and may even be quite advanced. Most importantly, the goal of this thinking seems to be to reach a formula that will garner the broad support of the Israeli public.

The most interesting part of the emerging thinking of the Netanyahu government is that unity may be finally taking its rightful place in the Israeli pantheon of values: a prerequisite to both peace and security.

There is no reason for the Palestinians to settle for a peace that does not reflect the red lines of a solid majority of Israelis. At the same time, the long-term stability of any peace agreement will depend on the willingness of the broad majority of Israelis to enforce it.

Walking blindly

MOR ALTSHULER

THE Israeli architects of the Oslo accords consistently rejected historical perspective and pretended that the "New Middle East" had no past, only a future. But in the area known as the cradle of mankind denying history can be as delusory as claiming victory while playing chess against oneself.

The resultant mistake is called

Hebron is the stepping stone to Jerusalem, and all the parties involved in the agreement knew it - except one

Hebron, but the price could be Jerusalem.

Hebron is more than just Hebron. Like Jerusalem, Hebron has always been a symbol of conquest and domination, whoever managed to lay hold of the Machpelah Cave in Hebron and the Temple Mount in Jerusalem dominated the entire Holy Land.

The cave, burial place of the Patriarchs, originally sanctified by the Jews around 4000 BC, was conquered in the 5th century by the Christian Byzantine rulers. As a sign of their victory they built a church above the original structure. In the 7th century the Moslems defeated the Byzantines and turned the church into a mosque, just like they did in Jerusalem.

In the 13th century the fanatic Mamluke rulers forbade the non-Islamic inhabitants of the Holy Land to set foot inside the cave structure. Jewish pilgrims could no longer pray near the resting place of their forefathers and had to settle for the outside stairs leading up to the building.

The British co-querors of

Palestine let this prohibition stand. "Praying on the stairs" became a humiliating reminder of the Jews' inferior status in their own homeland, under foreign patronage.

Only in 1967, when the Israeli army entered Hebron without any blood being shed, could Jews go into the site again. It was the first time in centuries, in fact, that it was open to all worshippers of all religions.

Since the days of King David, who used Hebron as a stepping-stone to conquering Jerusalem and taking over the kingdom, Hebron has been the gate to Jerusalem, the road to Jerusalem, the precedent for Jerusalem.

Today, with the expected withdrawal from Hebron, anyone who expects that Yasser Arafat will settle for less in Jerusalem than he is already receiving in Hebron is being naive.

In other words, in engineering the Hebron agreement, the previous government engineered the destiny of Jerusalem as a divided city once again.

HEBRON as a precedent for Jerusalem means total Islamic control over the Temple Mount and eastern Jerusalem. The Jewish quarter of the Old City would be left as a small island with only a narrow corridor to enable Jewish access to the Western Wall, under the protection of Palestinian troops.

One might assume that all the parties involved in cobbling together the Hebron agreement were familiar with Hebron's history. One might further assume that they well understood that preventing Hebron from becoming a precedent for Jerusalem would be well-nigh impossible.

We might suspect that the American mediators understood, even if they chose to keep quiet about it.

Obviously, the Palestinians understood. Just recently Arafat

Dry Bones



informed a crowd in Dehaishe near Bethlehem, declaring that the Palestinians had only one word, which he repeated thrice: "Jihad, Jihad, Jihad!"

His message could hardly have been clearer. Jihad is Arafat's code word for his attempts to revive and replay the Islamic myth of conquering the Holy Land.

Jihad is the code for a crusade that will end only when absolute Islamic domination of Jerusalem is achieved. Hebron is an essential stage in that crusade.

It seems, then, that only one party failed to understand what the Hebron agreement implied: Israel.

Did Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres realize the full implication of their actions, or did they choose

to ignore it? As far as Rabin is concerned, we cannot know. As regards Peres, however, the answer is clear.

Peres declared more than once that he did not care for history, because history had no meaning or significance, and could teach us nothing. Ancient memories and historical perspective, it seems, only disturbed and interfered with his vision of a "New Middle East."

Ignoring history, denying history, being blind to the historical consequences of his deeds - wasn't Peres the blind pretending to lead the blind?

The writer, a historian, teaches Jewish mysticism at the Hebrew University.

Post-Zionist landscapes

DAVID NEWMAN

A revolution is taking place in Israel's landscape. The country's real estate - its land - is up for grabs.

After nearly 50 years of land being safeguarded against speculation and the encroachment of the cities, things are changing. Agricultural landscapes and citrus orchards are disappearing, converted over by expanding urban development and new settlements.

Today the independent Jerusalem-based Floersheimer Institute for Policy Studies is holding a one-day conference to examine the impact of this change on Israel's municipal structure.

In particular, participants will discuss the implications of the recent statement by Avigdor Lieberman, director of the Prime Minister's Office, that it is time to transfer land from the Regional Council authorities to many of the development towns that require this land for future development.

Today's conference follows closely on a large symposium held last week at Tel Aviv University at which participants discussed the vital implications of the land privatization and rezoning taking place throughout Israel, especially in the central metropolitan regions of the coastal plain.

Until the early 1990s most land was strictly zoned for agricultural and "green" uses. The government was in a unique position to enforce this rigid control because it actually owned over 90 percent of the land.

Not only was the preservation of agricultural land perceived as important to economic growth, it

was also part of the creation of a unique landscape occupied by kibbutzim and moshavim, cotton fields and citrus orchards - the Zionist dream come true.

During the '50s most land was allocated to the rural municipalities, the Regional Councils. This resulted in the strangling of cities and development towns, which could not acquire the land they needed to expand.

So instead our urban landscape

resources, including land, for constructing adequate housing. The restrictions on the rezoning of agricultural land were gradually relaxed. This, it was argued, was in line with the developmental needs of a modern, post-industrial society.

BUT HERE'S the rub. Why should the rural authorities profit from land they never purchased, that they received only because of

What is 'urban' - or 'rural'? The traditional distinction is fast disappearing

expanded vertically, growing upward in the dull high-rise apartment blocks so typical of Israeli towns.

During the past 15 years two major processes have caused this situation to change.

First, Israel's village landscape has changed dramatically. Instead of kibbutzim and moshavim we have preferred to construct dormitory and residential communities, from which we commute daily to our jobs in the nearby towns. The moshavim and the kibbutzim themselves are undergoing their own processes of internal change, and agriculture is slowly disappearing altogether.

The second major influence has been the mass Russian immigration.

In the immediate aftermath of this aliyah in the early '90s, the government took on emergency powers to provide the necessary

the way the Labor governments carved up the landscape during the 1950s?

As long as it could be argued that the land had to be preserved for agriculture, against urban encroachment, its control by the regional councils could be justified. But now it has been opened up to speculation and commercial development there is no reason why the councils should persist in this unfair advantage.

The regional authorities and the settlements themselves are cashing in on the land rezoning, trying to sell to the highest bidder. And the development towns see this as just one more indication of their inferior status.

For years, their residents found seasonal employment in the surrounding kibbutzim and moshavim but were rarely allowed to join in the rich cultural and social activities of the rural elite. The

kibbutzim and the moshavim, for their part, received their - often highly-subsidized - services through regional councils and had little need of the development towns, other than as a ready source of cheap labor.

But the changes described have made rural and urban communities increasingly interdependent for a wide range of services. The distinction between what is "rural" and what is "urban" is fast disappearing, and there is little logical reason for maintaining the artificial, often costly, distinctions between two separate municipal systems occupying the same space.

And as more and more of the country's land is privatized and rezoned, the distinction between the two will become even more blurred. It is time for the country's municipal map to be redrawn, taking these changing realities into account.

In the 21st century Israel's landscape will bear little resemblance to the unique Zionist landscapes of the '50s and '60s - an inevitable consequence of modernization, industrialization and urban expansion.

As such, rather than being held back by the ideologues of old, it should be planned for in an orderly fashion.

This is post-Zionism as transition, changing a unique pioneer landscape to meet the imperatives of the times.

The writer is professor of political geography and director of the Humphrey Institute for Social Research at Ben-Gurion University.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THREATENING BILL

Sir - According to your report of October 31, "Bill to invalidate local Reform and Conservative conversions due soon," an agreement [had been reached] between representatives of the religious parties and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, a spokesman for the National Religious Party said yesterday. If the Knesset were to actually pass such a law, it would show definitively that Israel is a theocracy and not the "only secular democracy in the Middle East," as it has long maintained.

I am the son of a woman descended from seven generations of rabbis. And while I could never accept my mother's religious fanaticism, I have always been culturally Jewish, and actively interested in the welfare of the Jewish people, particularly the State of Israel. I even tried living in Israel in the '60s, bringing a skill (pathology) to a land that desperately needed such skill at the time. When I found the controlling lunacy of the Orthodox community more than I could tolerate, I left.

If this bill is passed, my life-long interest in the State of Israel will end, until sanity again prevails, should I live that long. There are many like me in the Diaspora.

JOSEPH R. ABRAHAMSON, M.D.
San Diego, California.

DETACHED FROM REALITY

Sir - The more members of the previous government express themselves, the more we learn how detached from reality they are. The latest example was provided by former minister Yossi Beilin in "A lot of needless fuss" (October 30). Beilin claims that the Palestinian Covenant is a "pathetic, outdated document." He then gives the impression that his opinion was shared by others in the former government, but that they decided to include it as one of the PLO commitments anyway. If Beilin's view was shared by his former bosses, Rabin and Peres, one has to wonder why they attached so much importance to the charter's abrogation. These men viewed the changing of the covenant as an indication of Arafat's intentions and his commitment to peace.

Beilin is right in one regard. The significance of changing the covenant has become meaningless. Not because it is a "pathetic outdated document" as claimed by Beilin. It is because Arafat's commitment to amend the charter was a symbol of his intentions. Unfortunately, three years into the peace process has made Arafat's intentions perfectly clear. Among the most significant commitments under-

taken by Arafat were his pledges to control terrorism, extradite terrorists, settle all disputes peacefully and to amend the charter. Thus far, Arafat has violated each of these major commitments. Conversely, while the PA may quibble about Israeli adherence to the accords, it is empirically proven that Israel has withdrawn from hundreds of towns and villages in the Gaza Strip and West Bank.

Beilin is correct when he states that those who see the PLO as a partner do not need the PLO's abrogation of the charter to continue their infatuation with him. For these people, Arafat's declarations of jihad, embracement of Hamas terrorists, or incessant statements declaring that the current peace process is just part of the 1974 PLO plan for the phased destruction of Israel, are insignificant. For these people, the content of the peace is irrelevant, it is the process that is important. These people believe that the peace process will continue regardless of Arafat's intentions and are willing to bet the state on it. Fortunately, the majority of citizens did not share that view on May 29.

SHAWN PINE
Beit Yitzhak.

UNBALANCED SOCIETY

Sir - If the Labor Party wins next year's election in the UK as expected, 90 members of the ruling government will be women. The top companies of the UK and particularly the US mostly have women and members of ethnic minorities on their boards. London today is a multi-ethnic and multicultural society and its benefits are plain to see. A new dynamism and optimism which the pure English alone could never produce.

Let us turn to Israeli society: a paltry number of women in the Knesset; only one in the cabinet; women's pay at approximately half that of men's for equivalent work and jobs; very little ethnic mixing. How many companies have Arab Israelis on their boards?

As a result, Israeli society as a whole suffers. Half the work force has obstacles set up to block self-motivation and success. The Arab Israeli, far from

feeling part of society, feels oppressed and underprivileged.

Until such time that such imbalances are redressed, this society will remain half-cooked, tilting badly to the right of common sense, morality, efficiency and growth.

MICHAEL J. ELTON
Tel Aviv.

People who live in glass houses

SUSAN HATTIS ROLEF

THE way Yated Ne'eman, the United Torah Judaism daily, reacted to Gil Kopatch's televised "weekly portion" spells very bad news for those who would like to see some respect between religious and secular emerging from the tragicomedy of the Kopatch episode.

Columnist Israel Wurzel (who signs himself P. Hovav) decided to let seculars feel what it's like to be deeply insulted by a piece of satire. On last Friday he penned an article calling Yitzhak Rabin "one of the most senior murderers in the whole world... a focus of identification for Yigal Amir." Wurzel added that "the worms in Mt. Herzl shake from side to side because of all the alcohol in Rabin's body."

What makes this "satire" the more shocking is that UTJ MK (Rabbi) Moshe Gafni called the article excellent and said the writer should get the Israel Prize. Now I feel that Kopatch sometimes does go a bit too far. But the issue goes much deeper than mere vulgarity.

Since most of haredi society

believes in one absolute truth and views our pluralistic society as an evil rather than an ideal, it holds all those who do not believe or observe as it does basically in contempt. It also believes that

memories of our religious MKs, who screamed hysterically that King David was a holy man and that no one - certainly not a secular Jew like Peres - had the right to refer to him with disrespect.

Those who denigrate secular society cannot censure people like Kopatch

the Bible belongs exclusively to it and that only its rabbis may interpret the sources.

One is reminded of the political crisis that erupted several years ago over then foreign minister Shimon Peres stating in a Knesset speech that he didn't approve of everything King David did during his life on the ground "or on roofs" (alluding to the lust-filled story of David and Bathsheba).

The fact that God himself didn't approve either and so left building the Temple to David's son Solomon seemed to escape the

Which brings us back to Kopatch.

With respect where it is due, it would be a great tragedy for seculars to allow the religious a monopoly over the Bible and its wisdom. The issue is one of mutual respect and sensitivity - and it must cut both ways.

Great religious authorities like Rabbi Sebach (and Ovadia Yosef) cannot publicly insult secular Jews and denigrate all they believe in (like the rule of law, human rights and freedom of conscience), justifying this by quot-

ing from the *Shulhan Aruch*, then yell bloody murder when someone like Kopatch satirizes the complex relationship between Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, Isaac and Ishmael in a week when the story of the Machpelah Cave is in the weekly Torah portion and a bunch of Jewish religious fanatics in Hebron threatens to blow up the whole Middle East.

Of course Kopatch should mind his language, but only if the other side does too.

And when Shas MK Shlomo Benizri threatens to stop Broadcasting Authority funding unless Kopatch is taken off the air, he should remember that there are a couple of million secular citizens here who deeply resent their tax money being used to finance yeshivot where youngsters are taught to hate the Zionist state, shirk army service and gainful employment, and feel contempt for Jews who believe other than they do.

The writer is a political scientist.

Middle America

Coming Home From the Revolution

By ROBIN TONER

WHAT happened to the anger, the boiling discontent, the hunger for change? How did the country end up with a split-the-difference Government after four years of a Great Upheaval that destroyed a Republican President in 1992, shattered a Democratic House in 1994 and upended 60 years of social welfare policy in 1995? This was supposed to be the era of the big political crack-up. Of a conservative realignment. Maybe even of an emerging third party. Yet here we are, at the end of it all: divided government, again. A President who hugs the center tighter and tighter, having campaigned on appeals for school uniforms and the V-chip, the protection of Medicare and increased family and medical leave. A chastened — and much narrower — Republican House majority that spent much of this campaign running away from its revolutionary image. An electorate whose dominant image was an army of soccer moms driving to the polls in their mini-vans: pick up the kids, drop off the dry cleaning, move the Government to the center again.

The 1996 election casts new light on the contests of '92 and '94.

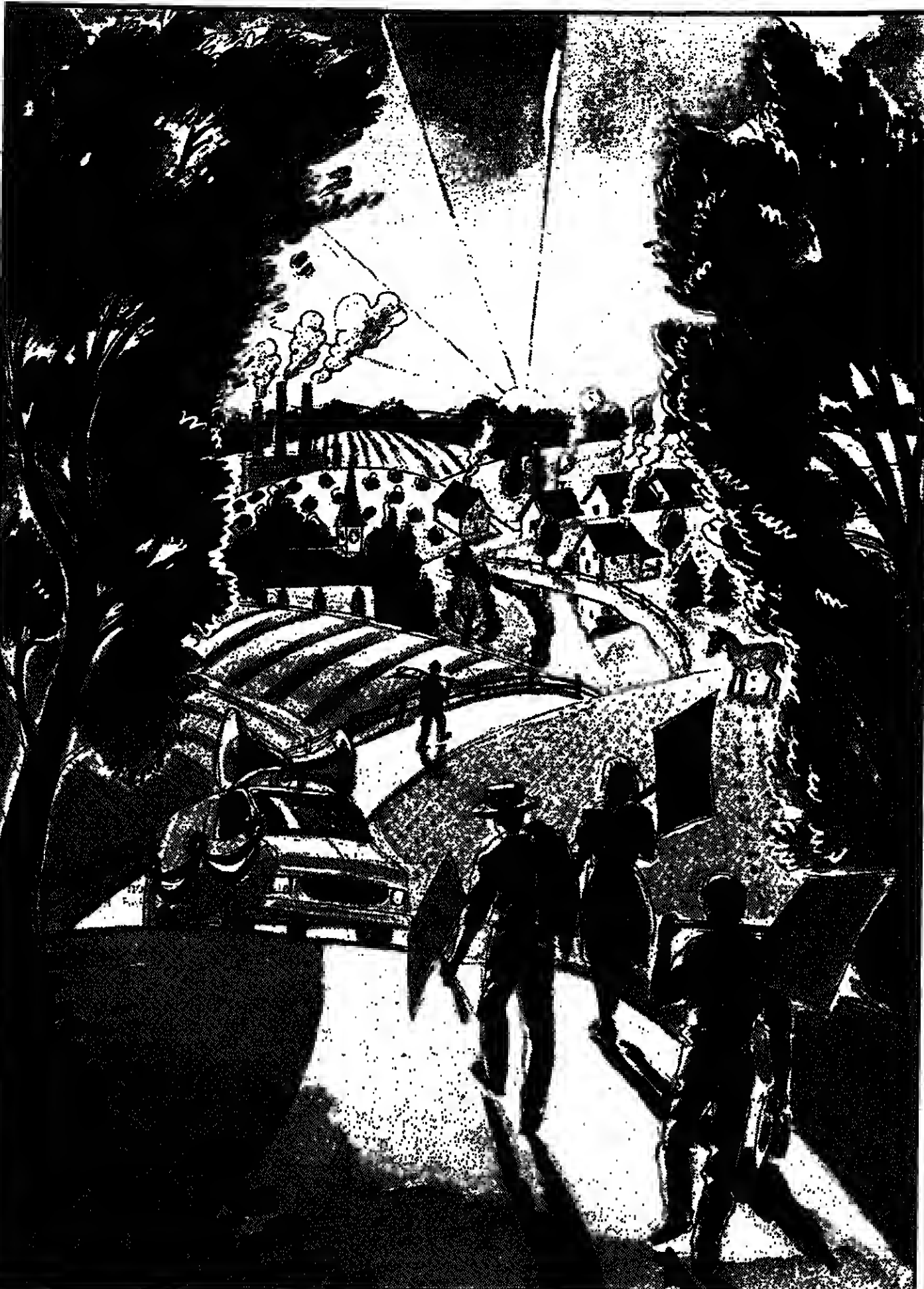
If the political tumult of the 1990's has indeed come to a close, it may be that the politicians simply overestimated all along how much change the voters wanted, and forgot that the country is a lot more like Mayberry R.F.D. than Paris 1848. Yes, voters were anxious and discontented in 1992, buffeted by a recession and the anxieties of a shifting global economy. But that didn't mean that they wanted the greatest expansion of the social welfare system since the New Deal, as Mr. Clinton attempted with his plan to remake the health care system, or the greatest contraction of it, as Newt Gingrich attempted with his Contract With America. Another possibility is that the era isn't over. Tuesday's election results could signal that the voters, wielding the blunt instrument of elections, have collectively begun to figure out how much change they want and to calibrate their message. They may have lowered their expectations a little. They may have recognized that the system has, in fact, responded to some of their yearnings. At the same time, as Stanley Greenberg, the Democratic pollster, put it, "if the economy faltered, I have no doubt that the anger would rise fairly quickly and it wouldn't take much for the underlying anxieties to come out."

The election of 1996, in other words, may turn out to have been less an end to the national upheaval than a mid-course correction. Well before last Wednesday morning, the conventional wisdom was that much of the tumult of the last four years was due to the hubris of politicians, spinning elaborate mandates from raw election returns. Mr. Gingrich and Mr. Clinton seemed to have taken that lesson to heart; by the end of last week, the two were declaring a mandate for nothing more controversial than a search for "common ground."

'More Realistic Electorate'

But their overreaching, in hindsight, may have been necessary to effect any change at all. The Framers made it hard to accomplish big things in the American political system, even when the voters want them. The power of interest groups makes it hard to accomplish even little things. Maybe Mr. Clinton had to try for national health insurance to set the stage for the incremental changes that were to come, like the new law protecting health insurance for people who change jobs and perhaps an effort in the next Congress to expand coverage for children. Maybe Mr. Gingrich had to declare a revolution to bring about a commitment to a balanced budget seven years from now, another long-running concern of the voters.

Along the way, the voters clearly learned something about the costs and the difficulties of change. "This is a much more realistic electorate. I would argue, than we had in 1992," said Geoffrey Garin, a Democratic



Nancy Carpenter

pollster. Many voters learned that universal health insurance would cost more in upset, regulations and risk than they were willing to pay. Many learned that they could not roll back the Federal Government without hurting the programs they liked, such as Medicare.

How else to explain why Bob Dole's proposal to cut taxes by 15 percent fell flat? The last two years have been one long and bitter tutorial on how hard it is to balance the budget, let alone provide a huge tax cut.

There is another way of understanding the last four years: a lot has changed since 1992. The voters did, after all, get a redesigned Democratic Party, retrofitted for the slightly right-of-center 1990's. Mr. Clinton's repositioning since 1994 is often dismissed as a series of short-term tactical maneuvers to ride out a difficult moment in political time. But some historians argue that this redefinition, if it holds, is not a small development. Most analysts agree that the country has grown more conservative over the last 30 years. Mr. Clinton may have succeeded in moving his party toward the new center of political gravity.

"He made it possible for the Democratic Party to

identify itself as moderate, responsible and non-frightening, but marginally more progressive than the Republicans," said Alan Brinkley, a professor of history at Columbia University. Even in the House, where the liberal wing of the party still holds sway within the Democratic caucus, Democrats have nonetheless followed suit; "Families First," their campaign manifesto this year, was a model of Clintonesque incrementalism, offering tax credits and other

modest gestures to help people educate their children, hold on to their health insurance and protect their pensions — in small ways.

Voters also ended up with a reconstituted Republican Party, stronger than 1992's but humbler than 1994's. Here, too, it is easy to dismiss the much-heralded Republican realignment of 1994 as hype, given the party's spectacularly unsuccessful Presidential campaign. Yet a brief look back to the 1990's suggests how much has changed. The Democrats not only held the House through that decade but had an average margin of nearly 80 seats.

At the very least, the voters have put the two parties at rough parity and allowed the conservatives to set many of the terms of the debate: The importance of a

balanced budget by a fixed date. The focus on values. The almost universal get-tough attitude toward crime. The bipartisan decision to scale back basic welfare programs and turn them over to the states.

Walter Dean Burnham, a political scientist at the University of Texas, says the country may not be in the midst of a classic realignment of the kind it saw in 1932, but it is in the midst of a great shift toward "a new equilibrium very, very different from the old order." He added, "I don't know where this leads us."

Many others in politics agree that much remains unsettled from this period of upheaval. There is still a hunger for political reform, given new force late in the campaign by the disclosures about the Democrats' fund-raising practices. There is still alienation among many voters, a feeling that the two parties are simply not enough. And, most important, there is still a profound disagreement and conflict over the role of government.

"Regardless of the partisan balance, something about the shift in debate that was registered in 1994 is going to stay with us," said Theda Skocpol, a professor of government at Harvard and an expert in social policy. "There's just a

Maybe it takes a big uproar sometimes to accomplish small things.

sense that you can't use the Federal Government for big initiatives even if the national problems are big."

Yet while the public sides with the small-government camp in the abstract, the Democrats' defense of Medicare, education and environmental programs hit a powerful chord, particularly with women.

Surveys of people leaving the polls on Tuesday showed a sharp divide on the role of government, particularly between the sexes: 33 percent of the men thought the government should do more to solve problems, while 60 percent said it was already doing too many things, better left to business and individuals. Women were evenly divided on the question.

The coming struggle over Social Security and other entitlements will be a test of how much conservative philosophy the voters are actually willing to live with. "I don't think it's at all settled that the privatizers will have their way," said Ms. Skocpol.

Scholars like Mr. Burnham say this debate was almost inevitable when the cold war — and the prime rationale for a strong Federal Government — ended. The mistrust of Washington began to climb in the late 1960's, amid riots, assassinations and the Vietnam war, and fed the anti-government politics of the Reagan era. Yet pollsters say it coexists, even among the same voters, with a desire to see some action out of Washington.

Unsolved Problems

After all, as Mr. Greenberg, the Democratic pollster, argues, the underlying problems that many analysts believe triggered the upheaval of the early 1990's persist: the long-term problem of stagnant incomes and fear over the breakdown of the family. "The good economy has muted the anger, and we've been through a period of repeated, dashed expectations, which makes people cautious about calling on government to do big things," he said. "But that doesn't mean that the problems aren't still real and the potential anger isn't still real."

When the inevitable downturn comes, so, too, might the desperation and fury of the primaries of 1992. The basic question will be the same: Can't the Government do something? The competing fear will be the same, also: Can voters trust their Government to do the right thing? And the calm of 1996 may, in retrospect, look like the eye of a storm.

False Impression
Don't measure Asia's progress by counting its female leaders.

By Barbara Crossette

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The Rules
Finally, men can learn what women want. Big help!

By Douglas Martin

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Triumph of the Gizmos
Why not a TV news anchor named Storm?

By Michael Wines

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Divided Israel

The religious right killed peace, liberals and secular Jews say.

By Joel Greenberg

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The World

Enthralled by Asia's Ruling Women? Look Again.

By BARBARA CROSSETTE

MORE women have led modern governments in South Asia than in any other region of the world. But as the ignominious dismissal of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's autocratic, corruption-riddled Government in Pakistan last week demonstrates, anyone who would write feminist history needs to look hard at how these powerful women have ruled, and what their exercise of authority has meant to the people they governed.

Through Western eyes, women who have come to power in Asia in recent decades often seem to be agents of refreshing change, sweeping away tyrannies as they ride the crests of democracy movements and lead campaigns in the name of "people power." They seem, at first glance, pure and untainted. But are they?

Most of these women have been widows and daughters thrust into power by dynastic imperatives when there was no male heir. When the last echo of the cheering is silent and the campaign posters are fading, they go home to tradition, freighted down with the baggage of mainstream political parties, with their vast patronage systems and rosters of old political debts.

They govern with the rules they learned growing up at a father's knee, a husband's side. Their issues are old issues. In some of the world's poorest countries, these women have had almost no impact on crucial economic



Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan last week.



Corazon Aquino of the Philippines in 1988.



Indira Gandhi of India in 1982.

The daughters and wives of the politically powerful learned politics the old way.

and social problems like education, women's rights and the protection of children. They cannot be viewed, as they often are through Western feminist perspectives, as pioneers. More often than not they are throwbacks to the past in a region that has been short on enlightened leadership from whatever sex, rather than barbingers of a more egalitarian future.

Benazir Bhutto is not alone. Her story only adds a chapter to the checkered history of female political leaders in South Asia. Indira Gandhi, whose long tenure was ended in 1984 by assassins' bullets, left a legacy of subverted democratic institutions and dirty tricks played on small neighboring nations. In Sri Lanka, Sirimavo Bandaranaike trapped a once-promising economy in a tangle of third-world rhetoric. In this decade, an aggressive rivalry between two women in Bangladesh — Khaleda Zia and Sheikh Hasina Wazed, past and present Prime Ministers — has paralyzed government.

In a region where most women face significant discrimination and deprivation, a female face, behind the prime minister's or president's desk has not brought much change. In societies still dominated by men, especially in the Muslim nations of Pakistan and Bangladesh, women in office may indeed give female politicians a bad name, and may provoke a backlash.

That does not mean they cannot still be powerful

symbols of change — at least for a time. Although Ms. Bhutto campaigned with posters showing her youthful face partly superimposed on a ghostly portrait of her father — Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was overthrown in 1977 and hanged two years later for a political murder — she also rode a new wave of optimism born of an exuberant democratic movement.

However, the sense that Ms. Bhutto, Western educated and "modern," soon reverted to her family's autocratic, feudal mentality and let down so many of her middle-class democratic supporters has filled a well of bitterness. It is not unimportant that buried among the charges leveled against her last week by President Farooq Leghari was a hint that she or her husband, Asif Ali Zardari, was somehow involved in the murder of her brother Murtaza, her only surviving male sibling and therefore a blood threat as well as a political opponent.

Symbols of Democracy

Farther afield, in Southeast Asia, women have been tested less in office. Corazon Aquino, who became President of the Philippines in 1986 after the murder of her husband and the fall of Ferdinand Marcos, proved to be a poor administrator, but that is, in retrospect, almost beside the point. Unlike Ms. Bhutto, Mrs. Aquino stepped aside after bringing democracy and changing history, and memories of her are largely handled kindly. Two

other Southeast Asian women are still in waiting, symbolically important but so far denied power: Aung San Suu Kyi, daughter of the hero of Burmese independence, Gen. Aung San; and Megawati Sukarnoputri, daughter of Indonesia's founding President, Sukarno.

Apart from serving as symbols at critical moments, many of these women, including Sri Lanka's current President, Chandrika Kumaratunga, whose father and husband were assassinated, have shown unexpected courage and political savvy. Asian political scientists credit them for this, even when otherwise critical.

"When there is no clear succession line and old party leaders fight among themselves, they often bring in a woman as a symbolic head acceptable to all factions," said Rouma Jahan, a Bangladeshi political scientist now at Columbia University. "They think they can manipulate these women. But every time they were surprised that once in power, the women handled the men and mastered old-style politics."

Chan Heng Chee, Singapore's Ambassador to the United States, cited Indira Gandhi, daughter of Jawaharlal Nehru. "She was very much a leader; she had ideas," Dr. Chan said. "The Congress Party appointed her as a compromise, thinking they could manipulate her, but she quickly took over the reins. She stood out." Unfortunately, Mrs. Gandhi also was prepared to abolish civil liberties to save her political career.

How to respond to women who come to power

dynastically has become an increasingly contentious issue for women's rights advocates in Asia.

When Ms. Bhutto took office in 1988, Abida Hussain, refused the opposition's invitation to become its leader in Parliament. "Frankly, my feminist ideology was a little bit troubled at the thought of being manipulated by a whole bunch of men to take on a woman because I am a woman," she said. Then, when Ms. Bhutto was dismissed the first time, in 1990, members of Islamabad's Women's Action Forum had a heated debate about whether to support her simply because she is a woman. Today, Ms. Hussain is back in government — in the administration installed after Ms. Bhutto's ouster.

A New Approach

Asian women are approaching the perimeters of power in new ways, said Ms. Jahan. "Having one symbolic woman as head of government does not influence or change the social agenda or the political fabric," she said. "All the headway women have been making has been through the women's movement, through alternative organizations, nongovernmental organizations, citizens' movements."

But, Ms. Jahan said, penetrating the top ranks is another matter. To do that, she said, women still require a political base and the ability to raise money — things the offspring of dynasties can take for granted.

Two Societies, Bitter and Suspicious

Rabin's Death Still Divides Israel

By JOEL GREENBERG

AT first, the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin a year ago seemed to many Israelis a cataclysmic event that would forever change the face of the country. One hope was that it would galvanize Israelis to unite behind his legacy.

But as the first anniversary of the killing came and went last week, it was clear that that had not happened at all. Far from a turning point, the assassination of the soldier of peace at the hands of a religious nationalist remains a searing symbol of the divisions in Israeli society — and, perhaps, an augury of violence to come.

Mr. Rabin's death, it seems, has no shared meaning for Israelis. Instead it prompts angry debates, reinforcing the views of the warring sides — and a deepening sense that Israelis are becoming two peoples. At one

The religious right killed peace, liberal and secular Jews say.

pole there is a worldly society with a yearning for normalcy, at the other a community of believers who elevate devotion to Biblical lands and divine precepts above the laws of the state.

To many liberal and secular Israelis, the assassination was the climax of an assault by the religious right on peace efforts and on hopes for a more open society.

To many religious and nationalist Israelis, Mr. Rabin's death has become an ugly tool in the hands of his supporters, wielded to cast collective guilt on all those who disagreed with Mr. Rabin. Alienated from the political message of the tributes to Mr. Rabin, few religiously observant people attended a mass memorial in Tel Aviv last weekend, or joined in the pilgrimages to the site where he was gunned down.

As teen-agers in jeans sat in a tearful vigil at the scene of the shooting on a recent morning, a lone yeshiva student stood tentatively at a distance, reading Psalms. His friends too had wanted to mourn, he said, but they had stayed away because they were hurt by the "incitement" against Orthodox Jews after the killing, and were put



Israelis marked the anniversary last week of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's assassination with visits to his grave in Jerusalem.

off by a secular cult of mourning that has grown up around Mr. Rabin's death.

The sense of separation has intensified Israel's own "culture war": ultra-Orthodox Jews denounce the Supreme Court and make threats against judges; peace advocates warn that they will resist army service if the Government leads Israel to war, and there are protests in Jerusalem over closing a main roadway on the Sabbath.

"Two peoples are living side by side, speaking two languages in the same tongue, reacting differently to the same events," the author Yizhar Smilansky wrote in a newspaper column for the anniversary.

Gadi Yatziv, a sociologist, argued in a tongue-in-cheek essay last week that the differences were so profound that Israelis would do better to divide into two states to avoid a civil war: a nationalist-religious

State of Judea, Samaria and Gaza in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Jerusalem, and a liberal democracy known as the State of Israel in the rest of the country.

Some Israelis resist the divisions, fighting to reach common ground. One such group held a teach-in near the national cemetery where Mr. Rabin is buried. And in Jerusalem Rabbi David Hartman, an Orthodox educator and philosopher, opened a new campus of an institute devoted to promoting a pluralistic study of the Jewish tradition.

"We must claim the center," Rabbi Hartman said. "We want to show that there is another voice in the tradition, to build a bridge to Moses."

But so far, the rifts have defied resolution; one reason is that they have causes far older than the assassination of Mr. Rabin. Bitter splits between right and left have

occurred throughout the history of the Zionist movement and Israel, erupting on occasion in deadly violence. It is true that the killing of the Prime Minister seemed to be an event of an entirely different order. But for all the shock it caused, it did not break the old patterns of confrontation. Instead it became an episode, if the most tragic, in a continuing process of estrangement.

Netanyahu's Role

So deep is the alienation today that many supporters of Mr. Rabin link his assassination to the victory of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in elections last May. Blaming Mr. Netanyahu for condoning incendiary right-wing protests before the killing, they argue that he has now effectively wiped out Mr. Rabin's legacy of peace.

Nationalist Jews resent collective blame for the killing.

"The murderer won," said Shlomo Lahat, the former mayor of Tel Aviv who organized the peace rally at which Mr. Rabin was shot. A woman visiting the site of the killing with her baby said bitterly: "They've murdered and also inherited. When I was pregnant there was so much optimism, a sense that we were going somewhere. But this baby was not born into peace."

A more optimistic view is that the election showed that Israel remains a robust democracy precisely because Mr. Rabin's adversaries could make their case even in the face of widespread revulsion at a fanatic's act.

In this view, Mr. Rabin even while alive had only partly persuaded Israelis to abandon their fears of the Arabs, and what really turned the electorate toward the right was a series of suicide bombings in the heart of Israel by Muslim militants months after the assassination.

This view holds that whatever the horror felt about the assassination, voters were able to distinguish between their grief and their profound doubts about Mr. Rabin's policies. "By all indications the murder of Rabin had almost no influence on the election results," wrote Tom Segev, a historian. "There is no certainty that Rabin would have been elected."

In his campaign, Mr. Netanyahu played on Israeli fears of the Arabs, promoting a stance of nationalist solidarity that his supporters felt had been abandoned by Mr. Rabin and his successor, Shimon Peres, in their drive to make peace with the Arabs.

But aides to Mr. Netanyahu argue now that the Prime Minister is too attuned to the world to simply return Israel to an insular fortress mentality. "He is wary, but he does not have this suspicion that everybody is against us," said David Bar-Ilan, a close adviser. "He is much more open to the idea that the world can be supportive and sympathetic."

Nonetheless, the rift remains. And it was left to Mr. Rabin's grandson, Yonatan Ben-Artzi, to publicly sum up the pervasive sense among Israelis that the assassination had only driven them apart.

"A year has passed," he said at his grandfather's grave, "and nothing has changed."

Ideas & Trends

Just When Guys Thought It Was Safe, Kablooney!

By DOUGLAS MARTIN

FELLOW Gentlemen, The good part is that we know what we're up against. It's in writing. Women have banded together in an iron-tight ideology to make men feel desperate enough to prostrate themselves in front of their shiny high heels and beg them to marry.

Why would women need 'The Rules' when they've already won the game?

And if the dolt gives Miss Perfect something really expensive but not sufficiently romantic for Valentine's Day, the response is pretty darned obvious: dump him.

So it is for "Rules Girls," as these cynically manipulative females are called in the current best seller, "The Rules" (Warner Books), written by two predators who parlayed their tricks into what they suggest may be heaven on earth, marriage in the suburbs. The book's dust jacket tells us that the author Ellen Fein's broomstick landed in Long Island, while the other, Sherrie Schneider, made it to celestial New Jersey.

It's a grim, dirty business, but the outcome could be a new home, a new life and half of Mr. Right's assets, if Rules Girls keep their beady eyes on the prize. "Don't call him even when you feel mean about not calling him," saith the scripture.

What has happened to the last half century of our country's social history? Did the previous generation burn all those bras for nothing? What was the point of a generation of women climbing the greasy slope of

corporate America, starting a majority of the nation's new businesses, running for office in ever-increasing numbers? Don't we now live in a world where liberated women can ask a man out and take some of the pressure off all of us?

But that's not the point of this letter to fellow males. Our problem is that even before this evil book we were already outclassed, out-thought and outmaneuvered by females. If we didn't control most of the money, good jobs and governments, we'd be pretty pathetic. Think back to your typical group of 4-year-olds in preschool. The girls color between the lines, chat intelligently with one another and put most of their food inside their mouths. Boys, on the other hand, roam noisily about in formless herds, brandish super-hero action figures menacingly and taunt the fairer sex with their acerbic wit.

It only gets worse. By adolescence we have learned to play football and form rock groups, and are well on the way to becoming the charmers we will be in college. We will stare at a phone for an eternity and then chicken out before calling the mysterious female described in "The Rules." At dances, we will play games like asking only the women over six feet tall to dance to minimize our chances of rejection. The fact is men have scant idea what they want and less idea how to get it, and are nearly powerless before women in general, not to mention the cunning Rules Girls.

To them, the wedding is the be-all and end-all. Dr. Stephen Feld, vice president of clinical affairs at Gracie Square Hospital in New York City, says this may be the book's biggest fallacy. Marriage as the goal is "simplistic and limited," he says, since it is merely part of a relationship's continuum.

Rules Girls, though, see a big difference after marriage. Once a man is nailed down, the authors advise them to accord him princely treatment, including allowing him to go on weekend trips by himself. "You just try to be serene and unselfish, or you won't be a happy princess," the book advises.

Unwritten: Male Rules

Dr. William Fried, a psychiatrist at Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn, says this sharp sea change in behavior sounds like a recipe for divorce. "What is the word?" he asked. "Inscrutable?"

More than anything, "The Rules" are based on a



Alison Seiffers

threat. Rules Girls always strive to create the impression they are very busy, most likely with other men. If a particular date isn't working out, trade him in for a new model immediately. "Remember, there are lots of men out there," the book keeps repeating.

Men, too, have idealized views of relationships, sometimes involving frequent and perfect sex followed by the beloved maiden floating into the darkness only to

return, miraculously, with a pizza and a six-pack. But few write how-to books about that.

All we can do is assume that whenever the phone doesn't ring, the person who is not on the other end is someone scheming to bear our children. It's almost enough to make you want to go bowling with the guys.

Fraternally yours,
Doug

Isn't It Romantic?

Hollywood Adopts the Canon

By DINITIA SMITH

YOU know Shakespeare? William Shakespeare? We're peddling him on the street," Al Pacino growls in the distinctive tones of the Bronx in "Looking for Richard," his new documentary about Richard III. And to some extent he has succeeded. "Richard" is now playing in 54 theaters nationally, not bad for a documentary, let alone one about Shakespeare. In fact, an MTV-like "William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet," with sex, cross-dressing and rock music — but still with Shakespearean language — was No. 1 at the box office last weekend.

In the next few months there will be a spate of big-budget movies based on the novels of Henry James, works of suppressed eroticism and emotional violence. In December, "The Portrait of a Lady" will open, with Nicole Kidman as an heiress manipulated by her best friend into an unhappy marriage for the sake of her money. Following that will come "Washington Square," with Jennifer Jason Leigh and "Wings of the Dove," with Helena Bonham-Carter.

Numbed by brutal action movies aimed at teen-age boys, audiences are hungry for the classics. An aging, educated population wants to escape into the more universal themes of love and family, ambition and power.

"There are no more classics left to film — they're all in production," said Lynda Obst, the producer who wrote "Hello, He Lied" (Little Brown, 1996), a memoir of her 15 years in Hollywood.

"The market has been shaken and stirred by the success of the independents like Merchant-Ivory's 'A Room With a View,'" said Ms. Obst, who is hoping to mount a production of "Anna Karenina." "The independents showed there is no one formula for success — as long as you have good, good stories."

Shakespeare in Huts

This hunger for the classics, however, is no new thing in American life. Throughout the 19th century, drama, opera and orchestral music fed a craving for culture at all levels of society. Shakespeare was presented with singers, jugglers, acrobats and dancers. In his 1988 book "Highbrow/Lowbrow: The Emergence of Cultural Hierarchy in America" (Harvard University Press), Lawrence W. Levine, professor of cultural history at the University of California at Berkeley, noted that Shakespeare was more popular in this country than in England. When Alexis de Tocqueville toured America in the 1830's, he found Shakespeare performed in every frontier settlement and mining town. "There is hardly a pioneer's hut that does not contain a few odd works of Shakespeare," he wrote.

It was only at the turn of the century that the distinction between "high" and "low" culture emerged. Culture became "sacralized" and "aristocratized," Mr. Levine argues, by a patriarchy alarmed at the arrival of hordes of non-English-speaking immigrants.

When Henry James returned to the States in 1904 after a long absence in Europe, he complained in "The American Scene" that "face after face, unmistakably, was 'low' — particularly in men... no sound of English, in a single instance, escaped their lips." He could see a society moving "away — away always and everywhere, from the old presumptions and conceivabilities."

A century later, the boundaries between high



Leonardo DiCaprio gets homicidal in "William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet."



Shelley Duvall in "The Portrait of a Lady."



Al Pacino in "Looking for Richard."

and low culture seem to be dissolving once again. One reason is the nature of the late 20th-century audience itself, with both MTV and PBS beamed into many households.

It is also the most educated mass audience in history. "Today, we have the grandchildren and great-grandchildren of that great wave of immigration," said Mr. Levine, whose new book is titled "The Opening of the American Mind: Canons, Culture and History" (Beacon Press). "And a huge number of them have gone through college."

This educated audience is demanding more complex fare. Many of the new classical works — films based on Jane Austen, Henry James and even Thomas Hardy ("Jude the Obscure") — fill the void for adult entertainment, for women in

particular. "There's a large, white middle-class woman's audience that's been bereft of material for 40 years ever since the demise of Joan Crawford, Bette Davis and Betty Grable," said Ann Douglas, a cultural historian at Columbia University who wrote "Terrible Honesty: Mongrel Manhattan in the 1920's" (Noonday/Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1996).

Most of these new classics are models of decorum and sumptuous feasts for the eye. "They're a return to period drama when every inch of skin is covered," Ms. Douglas said. "Isn't it moving when Daniel Day-Lewis kisses the glove of Michelle Pfeiffer in the movie of Edith Wharton's 'Age of Innocence'? How significant sex can seem when seen against a society where social decorum rules!"

In Cable TV, More Is Less

By MARK LANDLER

WITH its mix of politicians and plutocrats, high finance and low blows, the feud between Time Warner and Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation is a quintessentially New York brawl.

But as the media moguls fight over which cable news channels New Yorkers will see, it's worth recalling where this grudge match began: not in New York but in the warrens of a Washington regulatory agency.

The battle grew out of the Federal Trade Commission's attempt to contain one burgeoning media empire at a time when the whole industry is consolidating into a handful of octopus-like conglomerates. In trying to satisfy the F.T.C.'s antitrust lawyers, Time Warner wound up antagonizing another vast conglomerate, Mr. Murdoch's News Corporation.

To some critics, these events show that the Government has little chance of controlling — or even fully understanding — the newly deregulated communications industry.

"Congress opened up this Pandora's box of consolidation in the media industry without leaving in place enough tools to curb the excesses," said Gene Kimmelman, the co-director of the Consumers Union, an advo-

of MSNBC, which is owned by NBC and Microsoft and was the only other viable candidate for the slot.

Why Time Warner antagonized Mr. Murdoch — given his political clout and his willingness to use his media properties to settle scores — is a question that has puzzled many in the industry. Part of the answer, Time Warner's executives and advisers say, is that the company was caught in its own web of conflicting alliances.

Tangles

Here is where things get truly complicated. Among Turner's major shareholders is the nation's largest cable operator, Tele-Communications Inc. When Time Warner acquired Turner, TCI became a big shareholder of Time Warner. That troubled the F.T.C. because it linked the two largest cable distributors, who control access to 40 percent of all cable subscribers, with CNN.

In demanding that Time Warner carry a second news channel, the F.T.C. did not stipulate a choice, but was forthright about its fundamental goal: it wanted to diminish the influence of Tele-Communications and its chief executive, John C. Malone.

So why didn't Time Warner simply agree to carry Fox? Well, it turns out that Mr. Malone also has important ties to Mr. Murdoch. Tele-Communications has agreed to distribute the Fox News Channel to 10.8 million of its cable subscribers.

If Time Warner had agreed to carry Mr. Murdoch's channel, said one lawyer who advises the company, NBC and every other programmer vying for a slot on Time Warner's cable system would immediately have cried foul. Having agreed to distance itself from Mr. Malone, Time Warner would effectively be inviting him right back into the tent.

Some media critics say this argument is window-dressing for what was essentially a business decision. And most media executives suspect that the News Corporation and Time Warner, given their latticework of business relationships around the world, will patch up their dispute. Even Ted Turner, the new vice chairman of Time Warner who has been the main target of Fox's newspaper ads, said at a recent charity benefit in New York, "Everybody thinks we're going to sit down and do a deal."

The bigger question is whether the Government can regulate an industry that has become so incestuous. William J. Baer, the director of the F.T.C.'s bureau of competition, said, "You have to ask, 'Are there bottlenecks that will affect what consumers can see on television?' And then, 'Can you do anything about them?'"

In the cable news wars, the answer to Mr. Baer's first question would seem to be yes. To his second, it would seem to be, at best, maybe.

Consolidation is moving faster than the regulators can.

cacy group based in Washington.

At the moment, the New York battle looks like this: Time Warner continues to deny channel space on its cable system for Mr. Murdoch's Fox News Channel. After Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani took Mr. Murdoch's side, threatening to run the Fox channel on a city-owned station, a Federal district judge last week barred the plan for the time being. The Giuliani administration plans to appeal, and Fox takes out daily newspaper ads accusing Time Warner of monopolizing New York's cable fare.

But the seeds of the dispute were planted in July, when the F.T.C. approved Time Warner's merger with Turner Broadcasting System, which owns CNN. To prevent Time Warner from shutting out rivals to CNN, the F.T.C. made the company agree to carry a competing news channel on its cable systems.

That should have been good news for Mr. Murdoch, who was starting the news channel. After extensive negotiations, however, Time Warner abruptly jilted Mr. Murdoch in favor

The Nation

Sunny, Chance of Vote Results

By MICHAEL WINES

SOMETHING momentous happened on Tuesday, and it wasn't an election: On Nov. 5, 1996, television news became weatherized.

It was no secret. To the contrary, for anyone who watched the vote count on the major television networks, it was impossible to miss.

On CBS and ABC, Dan Rather and Peter Jennings, once impeccably groomed talking heads, were recast as impeccably groomed talking computer jocks. Mounted on high-tech daises in futuristic studios, they passed the night rapping their fingers on touch-sensitive video screens, summoning maps and vote totals to the airwaves.

Yards away, their sidekicks analyzed the results in virtual-reality studios, chatting amiably while computer-generated bar graphs sprouted from the floor around them and huge charts rose, fell and spun in the ether behind their unprotected heads.

Everyone was linked to a web site on the Internet. NBC urged its viewers to drop what they were doing — watching NBC, presumably — and point their mice at the Microsoft-NBC site for election returns and exit polls. Those who remained were given the option of leaving for the Microsoft-NBC cable channel, MSNBC, a place where many of the network's leading political correspondents were already appearing. This made sense, for NBC had almost no on-air computer gee-whizzery and thus nothing viewers would want to hang around for, except maybe election returns.

Computer-driven television news is not an entirely new phenomenon, of course; the logos and color-coded maps and other graphic devices wielded on election night have grown snazzier every two years as technology has advanced.

If computers seemed to have gained unstoppable momentum last week, the explanation is the same one that governs the use of technology in war and motion pictures: when it becomes available, it gets used.

Take CBS: In past Presidential elections, journalists had been able to grind out elec-

tion-night vote totals and other data only by taking control of the network's mainframe computer in New Jersey, a big Cray that processed paychecks.

"The problem was that a big computer, while very fast and powerful, did just one thing at a time," said Lane Venardos, producer of CBS's election-night coverage.

That meant delays of two or three seconds — an eternity, in live TV — in getting series of charts and graphics on the screen. So CBS News ditched the old Cray this year in favor of nine new workstations from Silicon Graphics and some 100 personal computers.

Until 1992, ABC's election-night map — which lit up in red or blue, depending on which party won a state — was a box filled with hundreds of light bulbs. "ABC projects Ronald Reagan wins in California; somebody flicks a switch; 27 light bulbs come on," said Roger Goodman, ABC's executive director and resident computer whiz.

Happy-Face Suns

ABC bought \$6 million in new Silicon Graphics computers when they became available this summer. It worked with an Israeli firm, Orad, to create a computer program for a virtual background that adjusts its perspective as a camera pans. On election night, the network's charts, maps and virtual effects were more detailed, more quickly displayed and, Mr. Goodman exulted, more realistic than ever.

Which is what happened to television weather long ago.

Twenty-five years ago, in the Bronze Age of TV news, the 6 o'clock weather report was two minutes of a portly man or a fetching woman armed with a felt-tip marker, drawing arrows on a map. Well-heeled stations ornamented the maps with stick-on clouds and a happy-face sun.

Computers changed all that. Clouds were animated with flashing lightning and drizzling rain. The maps danced with cold fronts and jet streams. The felt pen went the way of the slide rule, supplanted by a wand, that conjured videos of the Earth from space and Doppler radar on the ground.

Weather men and women began to groom themselves impeccably. They learned how to stand in front of blue backdrops and point to virtual highs and lows that did not exist except on computers, and which they could not see except on TV screens off-camera.

It began as a gimmick, and ratings rose. But the weatherpeople also began to come equipped with degrees in meteorology. And — zounds — the weather report got better.

TV news folks insist that their new computer toys are not gimmickery and hype (and if they were, they failed miserably last week, since viewers stayed away from network election-night coverage in record numbers). No, the TV executives say, the additions are serious journalistic tools that impart more information, and faster. Sure, and newspapers run advice columns as a public service to the lovelorn.

ABC's gummetal-colored set, with correspondents perched on balconies and stowed in far corners, was compared to the headquarters of Dr. No in the old James Bond movie and to the Starship Enterprise. CBS seemed determined to advertise its computer literacy with regular overhead shots, à la David Letterman's Skycam, showing Mr. Rather's hands pecking at various computer-screen icons, sometimes fruitlessly. Mr. Rather seemed to have a sense of proportion about it all; at one point he referred to his virtual-reality sidekick as "the manually operated Harry Smith."

"Sometimes the high tech overwhelmed the information," said Ed Fouby, a former CBS executive who now runs the Pew Center for Civic Journalism in Washington.

The technology is in its infancy. When virtual bar graphs ruptured the studio floor beneath Mr. Smith, the temptation to yell "Look out, Harry!" was almost overwhelming. The digital anchor will probably become a routine and valuable part of journalism, just like the digital weatherman.

Outside the studio, though, it still gets cold in the winter, and hot during the summertime. And any card-carrying reporter, lap-top-equipped or not, will verify that the best way to find out what it's really like is still to exit virtual reality and take a walk outdoors.



For the viewers at home, Harry Smith of CBS demonstrates reality . . .



. . . and, in a snap, new, improved, fancy-schmancy election-night computer reality.

Say 'Please'

Unposed! Rare Campaign Photo Ops.

The first campaign photo op probably dates to not long after the first photograph. But, with campaigns becoming more orchestrated and professional handlers routinely shielding their clients from the press and even the public, increasingly the staged photo op — produced with the most flattering support-

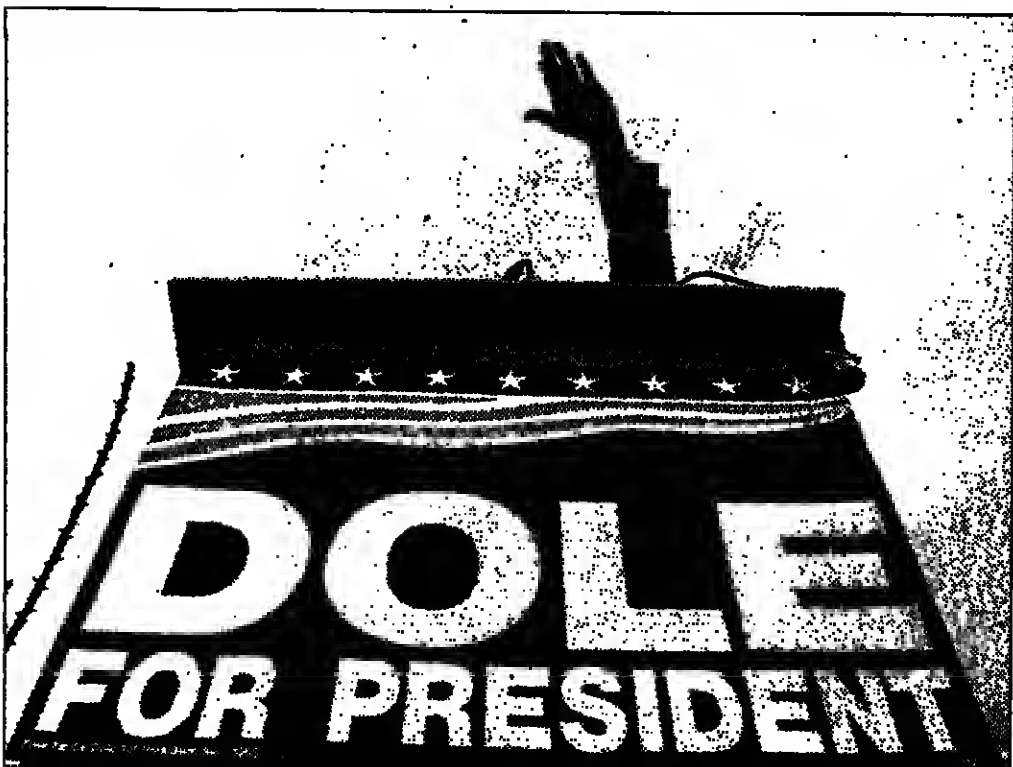
ing cast and the perfect backdrop — can be less an opportunity for photographers than for candidates. Which is why unposed images captured during some rare spontaneous moments often are the most revealing and the most enduring. Here are a few from the 1996 Presidential campaign.



An exuberant Bob Dole says goodbye to the town of Frankenmuth, Mich., last month as his bus rolls away after a day of campaigning.



President Clinton is reflected in Hillary Rodham Clinton's sunglasses, at a rally last week in San Antonio, Texas.



Bob Dole in Green Valley, Ariz., in February; the camera angle suggests a sinking ship.



President Clinton, the consummate campaigner, reveling as Vice President Gore introduces him in Cleveland last week.

Cyber-Mice That Roar, Implausibly

By MATTHEW L. WALD

AT first it sounded like big news: a veteran journalist and ex-spokesman for President John F. Kennedy said he had a document showing that TWA Flight 800 had been shot down by the Navy.

People should have been skeptical from the outset. The journalist, Pierre Salinger, said the ship firing the missile was a P-3. The United States Navy does operate P-3's, but they are planes, not ships.

And the story had an oddly familiar ring to it. So CNN called Mr. Salinger and read him, line by line, the material it had and, sure enough, that was what he had.

What CNN was reading was an Internet message posted anonymously in late August, about a month after the crash of the Boeing 747 off the Long-Island coast. It had been widely circulated and rejected for its implausibility. Mr. Salinger's "document" was a printout of the same thing.

Theorizing about plane crashes is nothing new, but it used to be called gossip. Now it takes the form of E-mail or Internet postings, and it has a new credibility.

"It's been blessed by the computer, and sprinkled with techno holy water," said Clifford Stoll, an Internet pioneer turned critic. "The gossip that comes across the Internet comes in precisely the same format as does professional news, Wall Street reports and important other factual information."

With Mr. Salinger's reputation behind it, the story had such an authoritative aura that the Federal officials leading the investigation felt compelled to appear at a news conference to deny it. Among the problems: the P-3 isn't armed and, the Navy said, wasn't in the area at the time; there was a ship, but it was too far away, the Navy said, and the wreckage shows no sign of missile damage.

The Navy theory is one of many implausible ideas on the Internet. Debate rages in news groups, where missile enthusiasts and bomb aficionados DUKE IT OUT IN CAPITAL LETTERS!!! and disparage each other's intelligence, even parentage. Thus ordinary scuttlebutt at the watercooler (a redundancy; a scuttlebutt was the small barrel on ships where sailors got their drinking water) is now for the whole world to read and believe.

ECONOMY

Behind the Two Faces of Texaco

By KURT EICHENWALD

MICHAEL MOCCIO knew exactly what to do when a complaint of racial discrimination landed on his desk at Texaco Inc.

A manager in the oil giant's Denver office, Mr. Moccio had read the company's equal-opportunity policies and guidelines on proper conduct toward other employees.

It was all going exactly as it should. Then Mr. Moccio, who is white, called his supervisor, Jim Woolly, a white assistant controller in Houston.

Mr. Woolly was not impressed, according to a sworn affidavit by Mr. Moccio.

"I'd fire her black ass," Mr. Woolly responded. When Mr. Moccio protested that Texaco could not dismiss someone for contending she was a victim of discrimination — a move

that saved Ms. Devorce's job — Mr. Woolly shrugged it off.

"I guess we treat niggers differently down here," he replied, according to the affidavit, filed in a 1994 discrimination suit brought by six other employees.

And there, for Texaco, lies the grim commundrum. The antidiscrimination policies are in place. The channels for complaint are in place. The surveys in which employees can gripe anonymously to management about what needs improvement are in place.

But the array of principles and policies can often be impotent, largely because middlelevel or senior managers operate by their own rules — with almost no corporate oversight.

The equal-opportunity system at Texaco, the nation's 14th-largest corporation, has come under the microscope after the disclosure last week that senior company executives, in conversations secretly recorded in 1994, plotted to destroy documents demanded in the discrimination suit, and used racial epithets in discussing black employees.

But the explosive tapes are just part of the problem. Thousands of pages of sealed court records obtained by The New York Times from the discrimination suit, as well as Government documents and corporate records, portray a company that says all the right things but that has done far too little to insure they have meaning.

The documents filed in the discrimination suit, which was brought by Texaco employees, reflect an equal-opportunity program without

teeth. For example, responsibility for meeting equal-opportunity obligations at the company is pushed down to more than three dozen company divisions, but senior Texaco executives impose no oversight on those divisions to insure that the lower-level executives abide by Federal regulations and company policy.

And unlike many other companies, Texaco does not audit the performance of its divisions to make sure company practices like employee-performance reviews are not unfairly detouring the careers of minority-group employees. Instead, the company relies on the divisions to police themselves, and on audits conducted by the Government every few years on each division.

The documents also indicate that Texaco has a long way to go in promoting members of minority groups and in assuring that its workplace is free of hateful racism.

African-Americans make up some 12 percent of the United States population, but of the 873 executives at Texaco who make more than \$106,000 annually, only 6 — or 0.7 percent — are black. And while the number of executives in the highest pay grade has grown 44 percent over the last four years, to 49, not a single black person has held such a job.

A Labor Department audit this year of a Texaco controller division found that employees who were members of minority groups had to wait far longer than whites for promotions and were far less likely to receive evaluations that would help them in their careers. Last May the agency ordered Texaco to compensate the minority-group employees for lost wages and to revise the appraisal system, which is used throughout the company.

A confidential statistical analysis prepared by the plaintiffs — and sharply disputed by Texaco — concluded that the total cost to oomwhite Texaco employees in lost wages as a result of these problems was \$71.1 million.

Scores of Texaco's nonwhite employees contend in the court papers that they were subjected to racially hostile behavior but did not report the infractions for fear of losing their jobs.

Deficiencies in the affirmative-action programs suggest that Texaco is not committed to insuring comprehensive, facility by facility, compliance with the company's affirmative-action responsibilities," wrote Leonard J. Bierman, former acting director of the Federal agency that monitors affirmative-action programs of Federal contractors like Texaco. His comments were in a confidential report on behalf of the plaintiffs in the discrimination suit. Because of those deficiencies, he continued, "Texaco cannot determine whether its affirmative-action programs achieve their goals or whether the company's policies and practices are having an adverse impact on African-Americans."

The problems at Texaco reflect the slow and bumpy development of equal employment opportunity for minority groups at companies everywhere. To date, there has been widespread success in hiring minority employees, at Texaco and elsewhere. But now comes the next challenge: moving those employees into senior management and assuring that the growing number of minority-group employees are treated fairly and with respect. The Texaco executives' stunts caught on tape — like "black jelly beans" and "niggers" — go to the heart of that challenge. Were these the words of renegade executives — including the former treasurer — who had abandoned the company's self-proclaimed values? Or was this the unvarnished voice of Texaco's true corporate culture finally being heard?

"The tapes really do raise some profound questions about the integrity of Texaco's commitment to equal opportunity," said Wade Henderson, the executive director of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, an umbrella group of 180 organizations. "With the litigation and the tapes, serious questions emerge about whether this is an isolated incident or something far deeper."

Over the last week, Peter L. Bijur, Texaco's chairman and chief executive only since July, has repeatedly stepped before the cameras and the

press to express horror at the blatant racism captured on the tapes.

Those recorded words "are statements that represent attitudes we hoped and wished had long ago disappeared entirely from the landscape of our country — and certainly from our company," Mr. Bijur said at a news conference last week. "We believe unequivocally it is utterly reprehensible to deny another human of his or her self-respect and dignity because of race, color, religion or sex."

Mr. Bijur has also announced that the company intends to shake up its diversity and equal-opportunity programs from top to bottom. A board committee has been charged with reviewing them, and a special consultant has been brought in to review the company's policies and insure that minority-group workers are treated fairly.

No doubt, many of Texaco's top executives and many of the company's 19,000 employees in this country are also horrified by the behavior of some of their colleagues. And the company has, in fact, stepped up its hiring and promotion of women and members of minority groups.

But critics of the company say that the tapes are merely the most overt sign of a long-running problem, and that Texaco still has far to go.

"Top management says this was a deplorable aberration, but Texaco's employees tell us they see prejudice around them all the time," said Timothy Smith, the executive director of the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility, a group of socially concerned investors that has been pressuring Texaco to address discrimination for years.

From the time the first gusher sprayed into the Southwestern sky, the American oil industry has been resistant and even hostile to members of the nation's minority groups. As an industry that grew up selling largely to other white-dominated industries, Big Oil never faced much pressure to admit nonwhite members, at least compared with industries like consumer goods that depend on direct sales to consumers.

And no oil company has been more resistant than Texaco. For decades after its formation in 1901 by Joseph Cullinan, better known as Buckskin Joe, Texaco prided itself on being the industry bad boy, the company that loved to be hated by its competitors. The company, which in its early days flew the skull and crossbones over its offices to symbolize its "take-no-prisoners" mentality, was the ultimate old-boys network.

When it comes to diversity and equal opportunity, Texaco has been the laggard in a lagging industry.

"The petroleum industry has done the least with regard to advancing diversity initiatives of any industry out there," said Lawrence Otis Graham, the head of Progressive Management Associates, a New York diversity consulting firm that surveys corporate performance each year. "And Texaco is doing the least with regard to making sure that minorities and women are recruited not just into entry-level jobs but middle-level management and senior management positions, and doing the least with regard to mentoring and retaining those individuals that are in those positions."

Those problems have shown up, over and over, in studies of the company's hiring and promotion practices. In 1990, the company intensified its recruiting efforts for minority-group executives, but only after a Labor Department audit that year found that Texaco was deficient in its minority-group representation at some levels.

As a result, the number of non-white employees at the company began to climb. The percentage of minority-group executives at the company has grown since 1989, from 15.2 percent to 19.4 percent in 1994.

The company also responded by setting up equal-opportunity programs and defining standards of corporate conduct. New resources were lent to the effort, and some executive pay was tied to success in achieving diversity. Glossy booklets proclaiming the company's commitment to equal opportunity were distributed throughout Texaco.

"Our employees are our most important resource," states a booklet called "Texaco's Vision and Values." "Each person deserves to be



Peter L. Bijur, the new chairman of Texaco, has been speaking out strongly against discrimination.

treated with respect and dignity in appropriate work environments, without regard to race, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability or position in the company. Each employee has the responsibility to demonstrate respect for others," the brochure said.

But the changes have not repaired some of the fundamental problems at Texaco. An oil-industry survey conducted by the Mobil Corporation using 1993 data showed that Texaco had a below-average percentage of blacks in every salary bracket over \$50,000.

Moreover, a review earlier this year by the Department of Labor found wide disparities between the promotion rates for whites and non-whites at Texaco. For example, in the controller's department, the agency's review found that on a job-by-job basis, members of minority groups had to wait far longer than whites for promotion and were far less likely to receive evaluations that would help them in their careers.

According to the findings, minority-group accountants at Texaco took 6.1 years to gain their positions; whites were named to the jobs after 4.6 years. While white employees were selected as financial analysts after 13.9 years, blacks had to wait 18.4 years. Minority-group workers seeking jobs as assistant accounting supervisors had to wait 15 years, compared with 9.8 years for white employees. Only one member of a minority group has ever been named to the job, according to the Labor Department findings.

The agency's review of the company's evaluation system for employees in that division found an even starker situation. According to the findings, 37 percent of 142 employees whose evaluations were reviewed by the Government had been given one of the top two possible ratings. But of those, only one minority-group employee had received one of those top ratings.

"In the absence of acceptable justification, Texaco must compensate the minority employees for lost wages because of the discriminatory appraisal system, and immediately revise the system to insure that it is nondiscriminatory," the Labor Department said.

The group of 13 managers from the Texaco finance department gathered in May 1993 to discuss personnel needs. After talking about the company's downsizing initiatives and the need to recruit more M.B.A.'s, the most senior executive at the meeting took the floor.

The group was not reaching its targets for hiring minority-group members and women, the executive said. Perhaps, he suggested, they should focus more heavily on hiring Asians. But all the executives agreed, according to minutes of the meeting, that Texaco should not compromise its standards when considering women and nonwhites.

The senior executive pushing the recruitment effort was Robert Ulrich, the company treasurer who, little more than a year later, would be caught on the secret tape recording deriding black employees as "niggers."

The role played by Mr. Ulrich in Texaco's affirmative action plans before he retired last year might send shivers down the spine of any

minority-group recruit. But it also illustrates a flaw vexing Texaco's equal-opportunity program: managers like Mr. Ulrich, regardless of their biases, make the decisions about meeting the program's rules, with virtually no control or guidance from higher-ups.

"No one at the top of the company is responsible for looking at the impact of these programs on minorities," said Cyrus Mehri, a lawyer for the six plaintiffs in the discrimination suit. "It's just laughable."

Indeed, Texaco executives admitted in depositions in that case that the company's equal-opportunity programs are administered by dozens of managers with no oversight from the corporate office. "There is nobody that's central, that is responsible for every business unit," John D. Ambler, vice president for human resources at Texaco, testified in a sealed deposition in April 1995.

The company's top officers are not even officially informed by the business units when Government auditors arrive to check the units' compliance with Federal employment regulations, Mr. Ambler testified.

When asked whether there was a "periodic or systemic way," other than being told by the Government, that senior Texaco officers would know whether the company was in compliance with Federal employment laws, Mr. Ambler replied, "Not that I'm aware of."

Even when Texaco was offered the opportunity to determine if its programs were in compliance, the company passed. For example, Harold Brill, an expert hired by Texaco for the current litigation, asked the company for data so that he could investigate whether its employee evaluation program had a disparate impact on minority-group workers. But Texaco never turned over the information to him, so the analysis was never done.

All told, according to Mr. Ambler's sealed deposition, Texaco has never tried to check whether its employment practices discriminate against nonwhites. Such a step, known as "validation," examines whether the employment practices meet the requirements of uniform Government guidelines, and is usually taken when a company is faced with prominent accusations of discrimination.

"If the subjective selection results in adverse impacts, the employer has to show the system is valid, that they are in fact choosing the better workers for promotions," said Laura Sager, a professor of clinical law at New York University. "They would have to validate their subjective techniques."

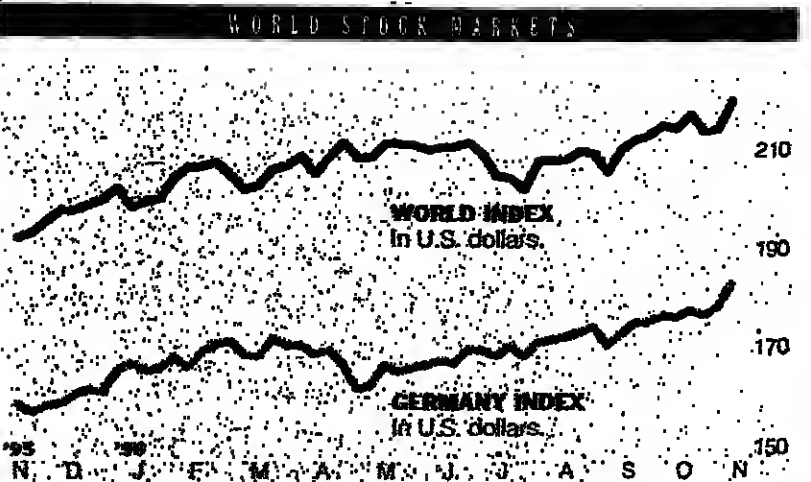
According to the sealed documents, some of Texaco's promotions programs seem destined to keep out minority-group workers. For example, Texaco began a program to post job openings within the company, but it excluded any jobs above pay level 16, the beginning point for senior executives. For jobs above that level, workers must depend on word of mouth from the human-resources committees, some of which have never had a minority-group member.

The sealed court papers also show that Texaco uses a secret job-promotion program, known as the "high-potential lists," that include employees selected for grooming by management. No standardized, objective criteria are used in selecting employees for these lists, according to the documents. Instead, inclusion is left to the judgment of the managers.

African-Americans and other non-whites appear to be woefully under-represented on those lists. Of the 178 employees selected for a high-potential list in 1994, only 6 appear from the data to be black, a court record says. A full analysis of the high-potential list is not possible: Texaco never turned over all the information, the records say.

A result of all this subjectivity, according to a confidential report for the plaintiffs by James L. Outz, an employment policy consultant, is that Texaco's policies for promotion that are intended to move minority-group employees into management instead have the opposite effect.

"Texaco appears to have failed to make an attempt to assess and if possible reduce the adverse impact of its basic companywide employment programs" on minority employees, Dr. Outz wrote. These subjective systems, he said, rather than aiding workers from minority groups in securing promotions, "constitute a systemic 'head wind' against African-Americans throughout the company."



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the Financial Times/Standard & Poor's Actuaries World Index, a measure of stock market performance. The FT indices are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's, in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and Faculty of Actuaries.

Table with columns: Country, Index, Week % Chg, Rank, YTD % Chg, Rank, Dividend Yield, Index, YTD % Chg. Lists various countries like Australia, Austria, Belgium, etc.

Table with columns: Composite Indices, Index, Week % Chg, Rank, YTD % Chg, Rank. Lists regions like Europe, Pacific Basin, etc.

Table with columns: Exchange rate, Friday, Last Friday, Week % Chg, Year Ago. Lists rates for Japanese yen, German marks, etc.

Source: Bloomberg Financial Markets; exchange rates as of Friday's New York close.

Nov. 4-8: Election Afterglow: Dow Breaks 6,200, Bonds Move Up and Overseas Markets Cheer

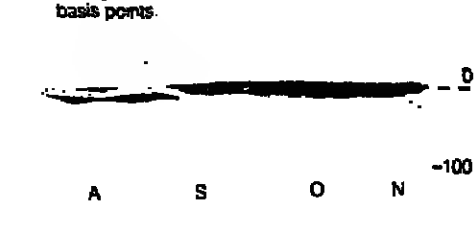
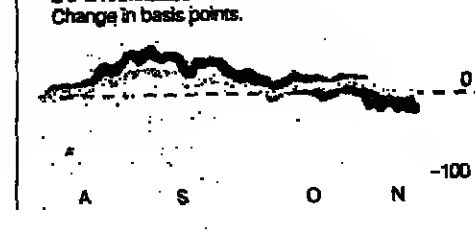
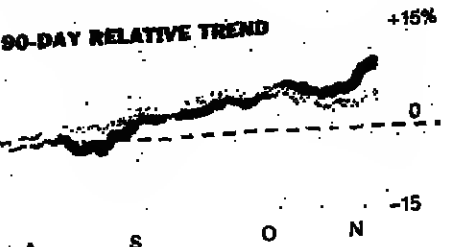
Table with columns: Domestic Equities, Index, % Chg. Lists Broad market, Blue chips, Small capitalization, Russell 2000 index.

Table with columns: Domestic Bonds, Index, % Chg. Lists Treasuries, Municipals, Corporates, Merrill Lynch Master index.

Table with columns: Around the World, Index, % Chg. Lists European stocks, Asian stocks, Gold, New York cash price.

Table with columns: Yields, Index, % Chg. Lists Long bonds, 30-year Treasuries, Notes, 2-year Treasuries, Municipals, Bond Buyer index.

Table with columns: Other Investments, Index, % Chg. Lists Money market funds, Bank C.D.'s, 1-year small savers, Stocks, S.&P. 500 dividend yield.



Sources: Bank Rate Monitor; Bloomberg Financial Markets; The Bond Buyer; Datastream; Goldman, Sachs; IBC's Money Fund Report; Merrill Lynch; Standard & Poor's; Ryan Labs

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Foreign Danger Zones

As President Clinton assembles a new Cabinet and looks ahead to his second term, he has a rare opportunity to review America's interests abroad. The relative tranquility of recent years has obscured the real risk that one or more countries vital to American security could quickly slip into turmoil. It does not take a seasoned diplomat to see the high danger zones. The potential for long-term instability is considerable in Russia and China. Collapse of the Middle East peace effort would have wrenching consequences, including the prospect of renewed armed conflict. Iraq remains unpredictable. Turkey, pivotal to American interests in the Persian Gulf region, faces powerful internal divisions.

But the greatest threats to American interests could come from three other countries. Severe turbulence within Saudi Arabia or Mexico would swiftly undermine the economic security of the United States. A convulsion in North Korea might lead to a military confrontation on the Korean Peninsula that directly involves American troops.

To head off trouble in these countries, Washington should vigorously press their leaders to make internal reforms and move toward greater political pluralism. Holding Saudi Arabia and Mexico in a tight, uncritical embrace, or putting off contact with North Korea, is exactly the wrong approach.

Recent Administrations had a bad habit of underestimating the risk of foreign upheaval, particularly when allies were involved. The failure of American foreign policy in Iran, where Washington tied itself to the corrupt and dying regime of the Shah, must not be repeated in Saudi Arabia.

The Saudi monarchy is formidable and resilient. For decades it has been a reliable supplier of oil to the West and a moderating influence on oil prices. It was America's partner in the Persian Gulf war and serves as the anchor of American influence and military strategy in the region.

But Saudi Arabia is under increasing stress. Disillusionment with the monarchy is growing as economic hardships hit an expanding population and Islamic preachers complain about excessive

reliance on outsiders, especially the United States. Home-grown terrorism is developing. King Fahd is ill and the royal family is divided over succession.

There may be no serious threat to the monarchy for years. But President Clinton should not bet American prosperity on that hope. As soon as a new Secretary of State and Secretary of Defense are in place, Mr. Clinton should conduct an unsparing review of America's relations with Saudi Arabia.

Mexico is a political and economic crisis waiting to happen. Decades of one-party autocracy have stunted its politics. Its economy is still staggering under the consequences of the artificial prosperity choreographed by President Carlos Salinas de Gortari and the devastating devaluation and austerity measures that followed it. President Ernesto Zedillo's reforms are welcome but belated.

With living standards eroding and crime soaring, and armed resistance to the Government in several states, Mexico is a combustible country of 92 million people next door to the United States. It would not take long for an economic or political calamity there to sting American financial markets and propel a tide of illegal immigrants northward.

The danger on the Korean Peninsula is acute. The cruel and erratic dictatorship of Kim Il Sung, who died two years ago, has been followed by famine and unclear lines of authority under his son, Kim Jong Il. Tensions between North and South Korea remain high, leaving Seoul so suspicious of its neighbor that it is reluctant to cooperate with Washington in preventing an implosion of the northern regime. But it is imperative to bring the North peacefully out of its long isolation. As long as North Korea is ostracized, hungry and heavily armed, it is a serious threat to stability in Asia.

Developing realistic and unflinching policies toward these nations will require both the sustained attention of Mr. Clinton and his new team of advisers and the support of Congress. Most of all, it depends on America's political leaders' recognizing that complacency in the handling of volatile and vital foreign countries invites misfortune.

The Army Investigates Rape

The United States Army clearly has a serious problem at the Aberdeen Proving Ground's Ordnance Center in Maryland. In September a female student at the center, which trains soldiers in equipment maintenance, complained to a superior about sexual harassment. Since then at least 17 more female soldiers have told investigators they were raped or sexually harassed. So far, investigators have charged five soldiers, including a company commander with rape and a drill instructor with multiple rapes.

The mistreatment of women in the military is all too familiar an issue after the series of scandals and incidents that have touched every service in recent years. In this case, at least, the Army seems to have moved quickly and energetically to investigate complaints of sexual abuse. That is more than could be said of the Navy after the now infamous Tailhook aviators convention in 1991.

The Army apparently learned from the Navy's mistakes. In Tailhook, female aviators and civilians were assaulted — some passed hand to hand over-

head with their clothes ripped off — at the convention in Las Vegas. Senior Navy officials attended the gathering and may have seen some of the debauchery. When complaints were made, the Navy conducted a halfhearted investigation and protected officers involved. The scandal ultimately cost top commanders their jobs and still haunts the Navy.

The Army is moving much more aggressively in Aberdeen. Top officers there have rightly stressed the special harm a drill sergeant's sexual harassment can do to young, vulnerable trainees. Investigators are planning to contact every female soldier who served at Aberdeen since the instructor charged with multiple rape arrived two years ago. They want to determine if women who went AWOL were fleeing harassment, and if women were threatened to keep silent. The center's commander intends to review the base's practices to see if any fostered sexual assault. The Army said on Friday it would do the same at every training base. It must also make sure that if senior officers at Aberdeen condoned the abuses, they too are held accountable.

Editorial Notebook

Those Gender-Gap Blues

Senator Alfonse D'Amato's political antennae are as sensitive as a lobster's. True, only a third of the voters say they approve of his performance in office. But there is probably no other politician in America with a 34 percent approval rating who has such a keen sense of what his constituents are thinking.

When the sun rose on post-election morning, it found the New York Republican plunked smack in the middle of the trendy new Vital Center, announcing that it was time to stop poking around President Clinton's finances and get on with serving the people in the most bipartisan manner possible.

One of the things Mr. D'Amato was sensing was undoubtedly that pesky gender gap. The most recent Marist poll on Mr. D'Amato shows that men's approval-disapproval breaks down 41 to 55. For women voters, however, the numbers are 25 to 64.

All Republicans suffer from the gender gap because of the G.O.P.'s hard-line issues base, but Mr. D'Amato's problems go beyond the issues. Almost every category of women voters, from "soccer moms" to senior citizens, hates conflict. Aggression, partisanship and yelling are mother's milk to Mr. D'Amato, the man whose contribution to the Senate budget debate was his famous rendition of "Old MacDonald Had Some Pork."

The New York Senator has always been a big supporter of political consultant Arthur Finkelstein of the "hopelessly liberal" attack commercials. Mr. D'Amato could not have helped noting that his longtime adviser and all-purpose talker lost all his big races by sometimes humiliating margins. Mr. Finkelstein's woes may have had no relation to it, but last week the Senator was reborn as a political puppy who wanted to "tackle the fact that Medicare is in trouble in a bipartisan way, without finger-pointing and one party accusing the other of attempting to hurt senior citizens."

This burst of comity did not cost Mr. D'Amato much since his Whitewater hearings were over anyway. His sudden disavowal of Clinton-hunting may have irritated other Republicans who have just begun to oil up their flintlocks. But it also points up how completely those

Mr. D'Amato Reads Polls And Sweetens Right Up

Banking Committee hearings reversed everyone's expectations. Senator D'Amato did not act like a buffoon or a wild man, as his critics had predicted. They did not damage Bill Clinton's re-election chances, as Mr. D'Amato must have hoped. But they may have further alienated women who will remember the Senator as the chief tormentor of Hillary Clinton when New York's 1998 Senate race rolls around.

Al D'Amato occupies a rather unusual position in the peculiar world of New York politics. He is one of the very few elected officials who does not have a permanently safe seat. Last Tuesday, only 1 of the 31 members of Congress lost. That was right in the heart of the Senator's own Long Island balliwick, and Mr. D'Amato could not have failed to notice that Carolyn McCarthy defeated Republican Dan Frisa in a district where Republicans outnumber Democrats 3 to 2. McCarthy, a political novice and gun control advocate whose husband was killed in the Long Island Railroad massacre, won 57 percent of the vote. Before the election, her campaign polling had determined that besides the Democratic minority, she could pull very strong support from Independent and Republican women, particularly Republican women over 45.

Mr. D'Amato generally gets low ratings in the polls, but manages to win his elections, in part because he has been fortunate in his opponents. Former Attorney General Robert Abrams, the Democratic opponent in 1992, crumbled when Mr. D'Amato ran a campaign that very closely resembled professional wrestling's steel-cage death matches.

The chances are good that the next opponent will be tougher. Representative Charles Schumer of Brooklyn, who is nearly as powerful a fund-raiser as Mr. D'Amato, intends to run for something soon, and it might be the Senate. Geraldine Ferraro is rumored to be considering one more shot at the seat she missed out on four years ago in a bruising Democratic primary. Perhaps in two years, Mrs. McCarthy will be an even more popular icon than she seems to be now. It seems a remote thought, but it must be one that prompted Mr. D'Amato's bout of bipartisan civility. GAIL COLLINS

N.C.A.A. Shouldn't Play High School Principal

To the Editor:

Instead of showing compassion for the hundreds of student athletes who have suffered at the hands of the National Collegiate Athletic Association this year, its executive director, Cedric W. Dempsey, discusses a new method, taking effect next spring, by which high schools can contest eligibility decisions (Letter, Nov. 6). Is the system not confusing enough?

Instead of adding another level of bureaucracy, and further complicating the eligibility process for students, parents and teachers, the N.C.A.A. must examine the entire process, specifically core course requirements that went into effect this year.

I support the N.C.A.A.'s intention to insure that students are prepared before entering college. However, the result of these new requirements has been nothing short of disastrous.

Calls to my office and research by the University of Minnesota Center for School Change show that top students with good grades and high test scores from dozens of states are being denied the chance to participate



in collegiate athletics because the N.C.A.A. has rejected courses that are specifically designed to better prepare students for college.

In effect, these requirements contradict the education reform policies of states like Minnesota and penalize students for taking college-preparatory courses. Something is very

wrong when our best and brightest students are denied eligibility.

I have asked each of the nation's governors to challenge the N.C.A.A. As the leaders of education policy, we have serious concerns about the ability of an independent entity to strike down courses we encourage students to take. Since when does the N.C.A.A. have the expertise or mandate to second-guess the content of courses that have been approved by state government? Do we really want some bureaucracy in Overland Park, Kan., the N.C.A.A.'s base, telling public and private high schools around the nation how to teach our children?

Instead of micromanaging, I suggest the N.C.A.A. focus on insuring that all collegiate courses meet high academic standards. I have heard many stories about college athletes graduating without the ability to read at an eighth-grade level. Only after the N.C.A.A. has cleaned up its own house should it turn its attention elsewhere. ARNE H. CARLSON
Governor of Minnesota
St. Paul, Nov. 7, 1996

Don't Tie Texaco Case to Affirmative Action Foes

To the Editor:

In saying that "critics of affirmative action routinely argue that the effort is no longer necessary because discrimination is now dead" and that "nothing disproves that theory" like the scandal at Texaco, your Nov. 6 editorial would confute those who are against racial quotas and racist oil company executives and place them all under the same anti-affirmative-action umbrella.

Outreach and recruitment programs are also part of affirmative action. These do not privilege race and are therefore constitutional.

But such programs exist alongside quotas, timetables, set-asides, score boosting and myriad other discriminatory practices that are carried out in efforts to "redress" discrimination. It is these practices that are the

real targets of reformers.

California's Proposition 209, for example, did not challenge those elements of affirmative action that are truly affirmative.

Your attempt to use Texaco as an example of why more affirmative action programs are required is ridiculous.

What the behavior of the Texaco executives really exemplifies is how institutional affirmative action has failed to alter individual attitudes.

If Texaco is legally proved to have discriminated against African-Americans in hiring, promotion or working conditions, punishment is due.

But this has absolutely nothing to do with challenges to the discriminatory elements of affirmative action programs. THOMAS MASCANTONIO
Philadelphia, Nov. 6, 1996

New Rule on Research Violates Human Rights

To the Editor:

The Food and Drug Administration's new rule on medical experiments (front page, Nov. 5) raises serious questions about the right of subjects to consent and about the right to terminate experiments. It took a panel of judges at the Nuremberg trials of Nazi doctors to recognize both rights. Without a right to terminate the experiment, the subject's autonomy collapses into what physician-investigators think best.

Now, 50 years later, physician-investigators are allowed to ignore both rights. This is a violation of protection in human experimentation as defined by the Nuremberg court and a return to a pre-Nuremberg view of subjects as "meat packages."

Committees or institutional review boards should be critical of research in circumstances in which consent is not possible (the subject is unconscious, and a surrogate not available) because in such cases, the subject loses all rights, not only the right to consent. EVELYN STUSTER
Dir., Ethics Program, Dept. of Veterans Affairs Medical Center
Philadelphia, Nov. 5, 1996

Cell Development Shows Evolutionary Pattern

To the Editor:

I find myself quoted in Michael J. Behe's Op-Ed article questioning Darwinian explanations for cellular evolution (Oct. 29), leaving the impression that I share his call for a return to religious explanations. This is not my position.

Darwinism and creationism are not the only ways to think about sources of biological function and diversity. The virtue of science is its ability to evolve concepts that render "miraculous" aspects of the world comprehensible.

Molecular biology has uncovered complexity in genome structure and cellular function. It has also revealed biochemical systems that cells use to restructure DNA molecules in ways that resemble our own genetic engineering. These systems introduce potentials for rapid genome reorganization and biological feedback into the evolutionary process.

Scientists have the task of exploring how far the operation of natural genetic engineering systems can provide novel ways to account for biological adaptations not ex-

plained by random mutation and selection. JAMES A. SHAPIRO
Chicago, Nov. 5, 1996

The writer is a professor of microbiology at the University of Chicago.

Aid to Chechnya

To the Editor:

Your bleak portrait of postwar Chechnya (front page, Nov. 1) underscores some of the factors unique to Chechnya that will prolong the suffering already inflicted by the war with Russia and make inevitable the deaths of thousands more Chechens, mostly children and the elderly, over the coming winter.

North Caucasian groups that organized themselves during the war to provide emergency relief are continuing their work, but they face problems beyond their capacity to cope alone.

Russia's war against Chechnya leveled the capital, Grozny, and other cities and villages, destroyed rail and road links, crippled food production and made access to minimal medical care impossible. Land mines and unexploded ordnance continue their bloody work. Tens of thousands of Chechens are refugees in neighboring republics whose own limited resources are tapped out.

Russia itself does not have the resources or the political will to begin cleaning up the aftermath. The few international aid agencies able to work in Chechnya during the war found themselves hampered not only by outright hostility from Russian officials but also by suspicion and lack of understanding from all sides.

As you note, Chechnya's best hope may lie in an untested willingness by the Islamic world to provide aid. How quickly this could be organized is a critical question for those already in need of food, medical care and shelter. GWENDOLYN WHITTAKER
Chairman, International Committee for the Children of Chechnya
Cambridge, Mass., Nov. 5, 1996

The Times welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. Those selected may be shortened for space reasons. Fax letters to (212) 556-3622 or send by electronic mail to letters@nytimes.com, or by regular mail to Letters to the Editor, The New York Times, 229 West 43d Street, New York, N.Y. 10036-3959.

Voters Lose in Electoral College 'World Series'

To the Editor:

Oddly, Alan Natapoff believes, as reported in "Why the Election Is Like Baseball" (Week in Review, Nov. 3), that citizens benefit under the Electoral College because a candidate can win a majority of electoral votes while losing the popular vote. This perverse result occurred in the Presidential elections of 1876 and 1888.

It may make baseball more exciting to have top teams compete in a series of playoffs and the World Series, but it is a false analogy to contend that Presidential candidates should have to win in certain states to avoid the consequence of direct popular vote. On the contrary, I find it undemocratic that, say, a Republican candidate, by focusing almost exclusively on the South and the West, can win the electoral vote but lose the popular vote by ignoring the East and the Midwest.

Another problem with the Electoral College is more serious. It stems from the fact that states are of vastly different size, ranging from California with 54 electoral votes to a small state like Delaware with only 3. This makes a citizen in California about three times as efficacious as a citizen in Delaware.

Presidential candidates, recognizing the large-state bias, spend far

more time and resources in the large states. Thus, the idea of popular rule is not only rendered reversible by the Electoral College, but it is done so in an uneven manner, making the Electoral College possibly the most nonegalitarian political institution in America. STEVEN J. BRAMS
New York, Nov. 4, 1996

The writer is a professor of politics at New York University.

No Urban Focus

To the Editor:

Alan Natapoff defends the Electoral College system (Week in Review, Nov. 3). But the problem with the winner-take-all Electoral College is the distortion of constituencies.

As a resident of Manhattan, I have far more in common with other urbanites around the country than with suburban or rural residents of New York State. However, a Presidential candidate must focus his campaign on the artificial constituencies of states. This has caused an appalling lack of attention to urban issues. OLIVER KARLIN
New York, Nov. 3, 1996

Hold That Reporting

To the Editor:

This is the first time I've been in the United States during a Presidential election, so it's been interesting to compare the process with the one north of the border.

I was surprised to learn from a Nov. 5 news article that West Coast viewers would learn election results before the polls closed there. The networks reject the claim that this affects voter turnout. This is an open question. Also worth considering is whether undecided voters are more likely to vote for the declared winner.

In Canada, election coverage does not go on the air in any time zone until the polls have closed there.

Are voters influenced by knowing the winner in advance? Perhaps not. But elections are too important to take the risk. TIM HUTCINSON
Ann Arbor, Mich., Nov. 6, 1996

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The Want Ads

HELP WANTED: Secretary of State. Salary \$148,400, plus yearly C.O.L. raises. Perks: Three weeks annual vacation, unless Iraq invades Kuwait again in August. Own Boeing 707 jet (1980 vintage). Pilots and crew included. Black limousine, with driver. Oak-paneled office with view of the Potomac. Must enjoy international travel, particularly to Syria. Must enjoy spending time with Senator Jesse Helms. Must be able to brief reporters "on background," "on deep background," "on deepest background," "off the record" and "on the record" all in the same conversation, if not sentence.

The successful applicant for this job will understand just how much the world, and therefore this job, has

Seeking Secretary of State who thrives on grief.

changed since the end of the cold war. Historically there have been two kinds of foreign affairs: the commercial foreign affairs conducted by the Secretaries of Commerce and Treasury — leading trade missions and managing the dollar — and conflict-resolution foreign affairs conducted by the Secretary of State — negotiating everything from arms control with Russia and China to peace between Arabs and Israelis.

The distinction between these two is no longer valid. We have moved from a world dominated by superpowers to a world dominated by both superpowers and "supermarkets." In this new world, the bond and stock markets of Wall Street, Tokyo, Singapore, Shanghai, Paris, London, Frankfurt, Zurich and Hong Kong can be as influential in shaping the behavior of states as the traditional foreign-policy engines — like border wars, nationalism and ethnic strife.

Nations that want to thrive today must transform their politics, open up their economies and streamline their legal systems along the lines dictated by the supermarkets and their investors. Those countries that get their politics and economics right are rewarded by the supermarkets with investment capital to grow and those that don't are left as road kill on the global highway. This pressure on nations to improve their airports, roads and telecommunications, to upgrade the skills of their workers and to downsize their deficits to attract the supermarkets is recasting the domestic politics, and therefore foreign policies, of one country after another.

The successful Secretary of State will understand that one of his or her biggest challenges will be helping countries like Russia, Mexico, China, Egypt, Turkey, South Africa or even Spain make the transition from where they are now to full-fledged members of this global economy, without destabilizing under the pressure. How well these nations make that transition, and what sort of cultural, economic and ethnic backlashes this transition triggers at home from those who want to resist globalization (labor unions, fundamentalists, traditionalists or others) will affect very much how these nations behave abroad. If the new Secretary of State cannot get under the hood of these countries and help influence their direction inside, he or she will never influence their direction outside.

To do that the next Secretary of State must be able to think in 3-D — he or she must not only understand the political, military and market pressures being brought to bear on countries, but also be able to manipulate all three to serve U.S. diplomacy. After all, it is impossible to influence China today without mobilizing the resources and pressures of the U.S. business and investment communities, which are pouring billions of dollars into China and now have more leverage there than the State Department. And the only way to advance human rights abroad is by enlisting U.S. corporations. They have to be made to understand that business rights and human rights are just flip sides of the same coin: the rule of law. Ultimately, if there are no rights for Wang Dan there will be none for Ronald McDonald. And no Secretary of State who doesn't understand the politics of oil pipelines will ever be successful in dealing with Turkey, Russia, Iran or Afghanistan. What does Bosnia need today if it is going to be stabilized? Bosnia needs big tanks, big roads and Big Macs. It needs tanks to keep the armies separated, roads to bring the civilians together and McDonald's — that is economic magnets — to induce people to come down those roads.

The next Secretary of State has to be as comfortable shutting inside countries as between them, as comfortable in a taxi as on an airplane, as skillful at manipulating the balance of power as the balance of briefcases. To apply call (202) 456-1414. Ask for Bill.

By Mary Jo Bane

The welfare reform bill that President Clinton signed into law in August poses serious dangers to poor children. Though the President and many Democrats who went along with the measure pledged to fix its flaws after the election, reducing the risks to children requires more than any incremental changes that might be politically feasible in the new Congress.

Before the bill was signed, studies by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Urban Institute, a nonpartisan research organization, predicted that it would push more than a million children into poverty. The anticipated rise in poverty could be alleviated by reducing the cuts in food stamps, Supplemental Security Income and immigrant benefits, which the President has identified as major problems with the law. But the current deficit-reduction climate and the Republican-dominated Congress will make it difficult to increase spending.

The real risks to children come from replacing Aid to Families With Dependent Children with a block grant, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, that gives states a fixed sum of money. That move dra-

Mary Jo Bane was Assistant Secretary for Children and Families in the Department of Health and Human Services until she resigned in September in protest of the new welfare law.

matically changed the nature of welfare by eliminating any entitlement to assistance; recipients are required to work, and the law mandates a five-year lifetime limit on aid.

The new law also provides the states with enormous flexibility. Some states, perhaps many, will use their new power to develop innovative ways of providing work for adults and services for children. But all the incentives are there for them to cut assistance, impose shorter

Those flaws in the welfare law can't be fixed.

time limits and use Federal block grants and freed-up state funds for more politically palatable programs — trends that were apparent in state welfare experiments proposed before the law was enacted.

Given the political enthusiasm for eliminating the entitlement to welfare and for giving states the authority to dole out money to the poor, Congress is extremely unlikely to override state decisions.

Some current long-term welfare recipients — it is impossible to predict how many — will respond to the likely combination of tough requirements and modest services by getting jobs and getting their lives together.

But many will not. Even with the existing safety net of welfare, many poor families lose jobs and housing. They move frequently, find themselves doubled up or stuck in unsafe relationships, and use homeless shelters as a last resort. Under the new welfare law, more families will find themselves in such situations.

Some children will end up poorly cared for because of inadequate su-

perision while their parents are at work or because their parents are too stressed and depressed to deal with them. Others may be in jeopardy because their parents, unable to move quickly into employment, will lose benefits.

Early versions of the Republican welfare bill would have allowed states to use block grant money for orphanages, in stark recognition of the possibility that some children might be in danger if their families were denied assistance.

Democrats pointed out that good group homes are very expensive and could never care for more than a small fraction of the children who would be affected. They also reminded the country that child protection laws have long recognized that poverty and unemployment are not crimes for which removing children is appropriate punishment.

After fierce attacks, the word orphanage was cut from final versions of the bill. But the underlying problem was never addressed.

The Democrats' answer to the problem of protecting children in the block grant system was vouchers, to cover certain needs of children whose families have lost benefits. Republicans fought the voucher proposals vigorously and successfully,



arguing that vouchers were just another name for the old entitlement to indefinite assistance.

But permitting states to use block grants for vouchers, and perhaps even requiring them to provide vouchers if they impose time limits on cash assistance shorter than five years, would be a good thing. Though Congress probably would not back mandatory vouchers — that would be too close to a federally defined right to assistance — lawmakers might well compromise on optional vouchers.

Other small improvements in the

law are also possible. Congress might provide more contingency financing to supplement state block grants in case of an economic downturn. But with any reversal of the basic structural change in welfare exceedingly unlikely, serious efforts to protect children must wait for the longer term.

In the short run, public monitoring of state programs to determine their effects on children is essential. The law needs to be strengthened to require more detail in state welfare plans, more public information on how states are using money and more tracking of and reporting on the well-being of poor children — those who receive assistance and those who do not.

In the long run, we will need both a new approach to helping adults find and keep jobs and a new approach to protecting children. The President has proposed a modest program of tax subsidies, grants to cities and moral suasion to help generate jobs for welfare recipients. Perhaps this approach will work better than tax subsidies have in the past, but the nation's experience is not encouraging. Cities need not only more financing but also more creative ways to help low-skilled workers.

The old welfare system all too often gave up on long-term recipients yet provided for their children with minimal but continued cash assistance. The new welfare system will no longer automatically take care of these children. It will have to be supplemented with programs serving children whose parents need more than temporary assistance and an exhortation to get a job.

In some cases, long-term assistance will be necessary. But to avoid being perceived as an easy way out of the welfare system's work requirements, the new approach will have to provide both services and supervision. It may have to require education or participation in community service, and it may have to give assistance through vouchers instead of cash.

Marginal changes are not enough to reduce the risks children face under the new welfare law. We need a system offering more or less uniform protection across the nation. We should be working on it now so that in a few years we might have a firm basis for serious national legislation. Only then will we truly be able to fix what this welfare law has wrought. □

Liberties

MAUREEN DOWD

The Fuzzy Center

WASHINGTON

Here, at the center, it doesn't feel vital.

It feels bland. It feels banal. It feels stale. It is Nov. 10, and the milk said sell by Nov. 5.

The center may be holding, but it's not thrilling.

There's an eerie quiet, almost as if there never was a campaign and nobody ever spent \$800 million on commercials, and there never were threatened workers or soccer moms. It's hard to recall a single sound bite.

"The year that never happened," Alex Castellanos, Bob Dole's ad man, says glumly.

It's not so surprising that the '96 race — trivialized, feminized and ideologically bowdlerized — has disappeared without a trace.

It was a campaign that felt over while it was still going on. Bob Dole ran with the hunger of an ex-President, and Bill Clinton wanted the prize so bad he was prepared to shrink it.

"We established in 1994 a women's pre-qualification pilot loan program for loan applications of under \$250,000 in 16 sites," Mr. Clinton rousing proclaimed to an audience in Ypsilanti, Mich.

This was the most elaborately targeted race in history, refined into oat flakes by endless focus groups and polls and cascading consultants, so that nothing original or arresting or important or real could possibly sneak into the discourse.

The candidates never even really intersected. Bill Clinton ran against himself: the conservative disciplinarian vs. the her-peeked, big-spending liberal. Bob Dole ran against himself: the tax-cutter and affirmative action scourge vs. the deficit hawk and civil rights defender.

I have already repressed most of the memories from the last year — I mean the ones I hadn't already forgotten. A few images stubbornly hang on: Democratic delegates from Wisconsin dancing the Macarena with foam-rubber cheese wedges on their heads... Hooters waitresses at an Anaheim, Calif., Dole rally telling TV cameras that they did not like Mr. Clinton because they did not want Head Start... Jack Kemp spewing a transcendently dorky omelette of football metaphors... Al Gore stiffly making stiff jokes about his stiffness.

But, basically, everything is as it was. There's no afterglow. For drama, we must settle for Erskine Bowles.

Washington may as well be "The Rosie O'Donnell Show." We'll be back right after a short break from our sponsors. We will be so-o-o nice. Since nobody has a mandate for anything, and nobody's in the mood to fight for anything, all that remains is to pretend to work and play well with others.

Newt Gingrich searches for common ground. Al D'Amato drops Whitewater.

In a sophomoric slump.

"Right now, it's expedient to be nice," said Paul Costello, who worked as a press secretary to Rosalynn Carter and Kitty Dukakis. "But it will evaporate as soon as the sharks smell blood."

This nicest can't end too soon for Bill Kristol, Vice President Dan Quayle's chief of staff and now editor of The Weekly Standard. "Everyone has decided to be goopy and caring and soft, and it's sickening. Clinton was hugging his chief of staff at the press conference. Can you believe it? Dan Quayle never hugged me and I'm proud that he didn't."

In 1993, the First Lady tried to be a tough liberal. In 1995, the Speaker tried to be a tough conservative.

But voters made it clear to both of them that they do not approve of doctrinal obsessions. Once Americans realized they were dealing with a trio with tendencies toward grandiosity — Bill & Hillary & Newt — they stepped in to correct the excesses and pul them on short leashes.

The Dole strategist, Mr. Castellanos, tries to take comfort in the fact that he did make somebody President. "It's strange, but Bill Clinton wasn't President before this campaign. He never became President by governing. He only became President by pretending to be President in a campaign. He only exists as President in his desire of it. But it's O.K. At least we elected a Republican."

He has a point. Mr. Clinton owes his unexpectedly narrow margin to the realization by most Americans that if we have to have a Republican President, the best bet is a Republican who is a Democrat. After all, this is a system of checks and balances. And for the first time in the history of this system, there appeared a man who contained all the checks and balances in his own person. □



The West Must Avert Disaster in Zaire

By Scott Campbell

As the last humanitarian aid vehicle drove out of Goma, Zaire, and into Rwanda on Nov. 2, the only authority at the border was a lone security officer from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Every other rebel worker, as well as Zairian authorities, had left town after Zairian rebels supported by the Rwandan Patriotic Army took over the last big city in eastern Zaire.

Although abandoned, the Zairians were not alone. They have been left with more than a million Rwandan refugees and virtually no aid now that access to the region has been blocked for all but a few humanitarian workers. The rest of us no longer know what is happening in eastern Zaire.

What we do know is that a catastrophe seems inevitable. Thousands of Zairians and Rwandan refugees will likely die over the next few weeks if a huge relief operation is not put into place immediately. Along with the refugees are many of the five million residents of the region, which is com-

pletely cut off from its food supply.

Hope for a solution involving the long-awaited repatriation of refugees to Rwanda seems even more absurd now than when such appeals were first made two years ago. Refugees who had fled the camp in Kibumba told me last week that Rwandan soldiers had attacked them with mortars and machine guns. How can we expect refugees to flee into the hands of the army that is shooting at them? Nor should anyone believe that refugees will be lured across the border by humanitarian aid in Rwanda.

For refugees, the options at present — starving to death in Zaire or receiving assistance in their native country — amount to forced repatriation. Not only does that violate basic principles of international refugee law, it is just not feasible. Many refugees have told me time and again that they would rather die in Zaire than return to it in Rwanda.

The situation is distressingly complicated. There is a pressing need to help the thousands of children, women and men trapped in the Zairian camps. Of the refugees in the Goma area, 45 percent are children under the age of 15. But this population, mostly Hutu who fled Rwanda after the genocide there in 1994, also includes an unknown number of executioners of the Tutsi and moderate Hutu. Meanwhile, those whom we know are guilty of mass murder — former Rwandan Hutu soldiers and

militiamen — will flee westward into Zaire with their arms, putting off their guerrilla incursions into Rwanda for another day.

An agreement with the Rwandan Government and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees allowed the humanitarian workers in Goma to be evacuated to Rwanda. The Rwandan Government will also

The U.S. should drop its objections to an international military force.

play a crucial role in determining how the aid workers are allowed back. Refusing or delaying relief agencies' full access to the region will be the true test of the intentions of not only Rwanda but also Zaire and the Western powers.

The United States and other leading countries must send a strong message to Rwanda, Zaire and the rebels that relief agencies need immediate access to eastern Zaire with international protection. If Zairian troops are still in the Goma area, they must

guarantee safe passage for relief agencies. Several European and African states have already pledged troops and humanitarian aid. On Friday, Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali rightly called for the immediate dispatch of an international military force. This force should have a mandate to protect aid workers and to try to insure that the former Rwandan armed forces responsible for the killings in 1994 are disarmed and do not get their hands on relief supplies.

The Clinton Administration, instead of taking the lead, blocked the French and German proposal to immediately send in an international force.

Moderate elements in the camps have repeatedly called on the Administration to press the Rwandan Government into negotiating a long-term political solution. But extremists perceive the United States as an ally of the Government in Kigali, which they blame for the attacks on the refugee camps.

The international community, perhaps feeling guilty over failing to prevent the slaughter of 1994, has been reluctant to put much pressure on Rwanda. The United States and other countries must insist that those implicated in genocide be punished and that the current Rwandan Government respect the rule of law and create conditions conducive to voluntary repatriation. □

Scott Campbell has worked for the International Human Rights Law Group in Goma, Zaire, for two years.

FILM

Pout or Shout, Hollywood is Coming to Town in Force

To tinsel-minded Hollywood the big season is here, offering visions of Oscars and box-office hits.

By BERNARD WEINRAUB

LOS ANGELES LISTEN to the sound of holiday cheer in Hollywood. "Unbelievably over-racking," said Sherry Lansing, chairman of the Paramount Motion Picture Group, which has five films opening over the holidays.

"It's insane — a ridiculous amount of movies are coming out," said Scott Rudin, a prolific producer who has three movies opening this season: "Ransom," "Mother" and "Marvin's Room."

"I'm leaving town," said Stephen Herek, director of the forthcoming live-action version of Walt Disney's "101 Dalmatians."

And Steve Golin, the producer of "The Portrait of a Lady," observed, "If you're not terrified, you're an idiot." In the real world, the holiday movie season begins on Thanksgiving weekend.

The holiday movie season is always an anxious time in Hollywood, even scarier than summer, which is terrifically scary. This year the seasonal anxiety is particularly acute because so many films will spew forth. At least 25 major films will open across the country in November and December.

Part of the explanation is economic. The five weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas account for as much as 15 percent to 20 percent of annual ticket sales.



Geoffrey Rush in "Shine," about a troubled pianist—Hollywood persists in loading Oscar candidates into the year's final weeks.



Delroy Lindo and Rene Russo in the thriller "Ransom"—its opening Friday marked the real start of the holiday movie season.

But the issue is more complicated. In addition to the desire to score big at the box office, there is the desire to cram as many potential Oscar candidates — whether for best picture or best actor or actress — into that little envelope before year's end.

Christmas-themed movies are, of course, a natural for this time of year, as are movies that simply feel all snugly and warm, whether or not they have explicit holiday themes.

Finally, the frenzy seems to beget its own frenzy, as movie makers simply pile in, as if driven by some lemminglike urge to compete. The studios are seemingly indifferent to the fact that there may be such a thing as too many movies in too short a time.

Every holiday needs to have an action film. Whatever the quality of "Daylight" (opening Dec. 6), in which Sylvester Stallone saves a bunch of New York motorists trapped in a tunnel beneath the Hudson River, it is the only big special-effects action movie of the season.

"We've got a built-in audience with a big star and a great concept," said John David, the producer of "Daylight." "And there's nothing on the market quite like us."

Similarly, Barbra Streisand's "Mirror Has Two Faces" is the only romantic comedy arriving before Thanksgiving, giving it a clear opening for predominantly women's audiences before a tide of comedies opens around Christmas.

Other films that are aimed at specific audiences and that seem to have a clear field include "Star Trek: First Contact" and "Beavis and Butt-head Do America."

At one end of the spectrum are holiday films intended for children, like "101 Dalmatians," starring Glenn Close as the wicked Cruella De Vil; "Jingle All the Way," an Arnold Schwarzenegger comedy, and "Space Jam," a \$100 million extravaganza that pairs the basketball star Michael Jordan with the Looney Tunes animated gang.

At the opposite end of the spectrum are films considered Oscar-worthy. In December, just before the awards season, comes a surge of serious Hollywood movies in limited runs. The rationale? Good movies that opened much earlier in the year will somehow be forgotten by the academy voters.

Is it really necessary to set off a flood of quality films after five or six arid months? Of course not. Academy Award winners like "Silence of the Lambs," "Forrest Gump" and "Dances With Wolves" were released earlier in the year without losing Oscar momentum — or suffering at the box office.



"The Crucible," the movie adaptation of Arthur Miller's play that is opening later this month—Oscar buzz is already surrounding the film.

The competitive mind-set endures. 'It's like saying my child is better than your child.'

fering at the box office. In fact, only one of last year's nominees for best picture, "Sense and Sensibility," came out during the holidays.

Similarly, this year the academy may remember earlier entries, like Frances McDormand in "Fargo," Denzel Washington in "Courage Under Fire," Samuel L. Jackson in "A Time to Kill," John Sayles's film "Lone Star" and fall movies like "Michael Collins" with Liam Neeson, Stanley Tucci's "Big Night," Mike Leigh's "Secrets and Lies," and perhaps Brenda Blethyn from that movie.

But Hollywood persists, however illogically, in loading Oscar candidates into the last five weeks of the year. This year's Oscar buzz surrounds films like "Shine," an Australian film about a troubled pianist; "The Crucible," the movie adaptation of Arthur Miller's play; Milos Forman's "People vs. Larry Flynt" about the pornographer; "The English Patient," which opens on Friday; Kenneth Branagh's "Hamlet"; "Evita," the movie musical about Eva Peron and Jane Campion's "Portrait of a Lady," which stars Nicole Kidman.

In addition, Oscar hopes are being pinned on certain performers in holiday movies, among them, Debbie Reynolds in the comedy "Mother"; Shirley MacLaine in "The Evening Star" (the not-quite sequel to "Terms of Endearment"); Emily Watson in "Breaking the Waves"; Helen Mirren in "Some Mother's Son"; Lauren Bacall in her supporting role in "The Mirror Has Two Faces"; Joan Allen for her supporting role in "The Crucible"; James Woods for his supporting role in "Ghosts of Mississippi"; Diane Keaton in "Marvin's Room"; Woody Harrelson and Courtney Love in "The People vs. Larry Flynt"; Kristin Scott Thomas in "The English Patient"; Madonna in "Evita," and someone (maybe Goldie Hawn) in Woody Allen's musical, "Everyone Says I Love You."

Sometimes studios and film makers seem to go out of their way to maneuver their movies into the holiday season, despite the horrendous traffic jam, on the ground that their movies feel so, well, Christmasy. Take "One Fine Day," a romantic comedy starring Michelle Pfeiffer and George Clooney as single parents who collide in New York.

Another movie that got wedged into the end-of-the-year sweepstakes is "Jerry Maguire," in which Tom Cruise plays a slick sports agent who loses his job and finds his soul. "I knew we were heading into heavy traffic," said Cameron Crowe, the writer and director. "But I just felt this movie had a December feeling.

This time of year people take stock. They think about their lives. I do. There's a happy-sad kind of hoping for the best. It was just — right for December. Of course it helps to have Tom Cruise."

Also big this year are films featuring angels, among them "Michael," a Nora Ephron comedy in which John Travolta plays an unlikely and unshaven angel, and "The Preacher's Wife," Penny Marshall's remake of "The Bishop's Wife," about an angel who comes to help a troubled ministry, starring Whitney Houston alongside Mr. Washington.

Another movie with a hopeful message is the widely anticipated "Shine." "The summer would have been inappropriate in terms of how this feels as a movie," said Ruth Vitale, president of Fine Line Features, which bought the movie at the Sundance Film Festival.

Finally, there are films like "Marvin's Room," based on the much-praised Scott McPherson Off Broadway play about a family coping with terminal illness. It ended up in the holiday rush whether or not anyone had intended it that way.

"At one point we thought of September for 'Marvin's Room,'" said Mark Gilt, president for marketing at Miramax, which is distributing the film. "But then Diane Keaton came out in 'First Wives Club' and it

became inappropriate to release it then. We also thought we'd have better luck if we went later." In addition to Ms. Keaton, the ensemble cast of "Marvin's Room" includes Meryl Streep, Robert De Niro, Leonardo DiCaprio, Gweo Verdon and Hume Cronyn.

Although official numbers show that Christmas really is a bonanza for movie makers, it still feels as if Hollywood is overdoing things this time of year. But the competitive mind-set endures.

"It's like saying my child is better than your child," said Mr. John N. Krier, president of Exhibitor Relations, a company that monitors box office and film trends.

Or, as Ms. Lansing added, with some bewilderment, "Who's going to see 30 films in one week?"

TO A T

BY RAYMOND HAMEL / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down sections.

Answers to the crossword puzzle, including: 1 Site of the Sun Bowl, 7 Busy, 13 Couch, 19 acid (preservative), 20 Biblical tempter, 21 Honors, 22 1837 literary collection, 24 Hairy-chested, 25 Gloaming, to poets, 26 Shift, 27 Expert at ledger-remain? "Paradise Lost" figure, 28 Visited the future, 36 Tad's dad, 37 Yevtushenko's "Babi Yars", 38 Reply to "Who's there?", 39 Repute, 40 Like Falstaff, 43 Turn state's evidence, 45 Continue without the words, 46 Rush-hour traffic speed, 47 "Cosby" co-star, 49 in the right direction, 51 She loved Theseus, 53 Kind, 54 Silent signals, 56 Bridge or wrestling feat, 59 Bran source, 60 Tinker with, in a way, 62 Reprimands, 66 Covering, 70 Winsor McCay's "Little" one, 71 Game-winning cry, 72 Auto's comfort quality, 73 Pioneering 1982 film, 74 100, 76 Pronto, 77 Fine-grained wood, 79 Out of here, 80 Do some punching, 82 Beginning Latin word, 83 Caboose, 87 Grimm creature, 90 Noted X-1 pilot, 92 Romantic painter, 93 "Up" positions, 96 Religious ideal, 97 Greenpeace concern, 98 Recognition, 99 Bowwow, 101 Zeniths, e.g., 103 — mo, 104 Hit song lyric of 1929 and 1968, 109 Green garnishes, 110 Sugary suffix, 111 Many moons, 112 Part of i.p.s., 115 Trinket: Var., 117 Show once hosted by Bud Collyer, 121 Gentleman thief, 122 Torments, 123 Barbara Bush's maiden name, 32 "Phooey!", 33 The Buckeyes, 34 Cut down, 35 First name in mysteries, 40 Point in the right direction, 41 More obvious, 42 Sealskin wearer, 44 Convincing evidence, 46 Org. once headed by Allen Dulles, 48 Multiplicatioo symbol, 49 Kind of price, 50 Repetition for rhetorical effect, 52 Anti-Communist soldier, 55 Dinner and a movie, perhaps, 57 A.B.A. members: Abbr., 58 — tung, 61 Bandanna-clad product "spokesman", 63 Prefix with plasm, 64 Scorpion attack, 65 Transude, 67 Aspect, 68 "My Cup Runneth Over" singer, 69 Gun sound, 74 Its slogan was once "Find out how good we really are", 75 Part of a count, 78 French shield, 81 Clear-eyed, 83 Southpaw's strength, 84 Betting game ending, 85 Like a warm-up exercise, 106 Coming-of-age period, 107 Thumbs-down response, 108 Jet, 113 Do acquaints, 114 First president of South Korea, 115 Gender —, 116 Adolescent preposition, 117 Use a shuttle, 118 One of a pack?, 119 Set the pace, 120 F.D.R. agcy.

Families better planned, thanks to Shilo

WHEN a small group of health-care professionals gathered in a one-room apartment exactly 20 years ago today, they had a single goal in mind: helping women who had unintentionally become pregnant.

In the two decades since, Shilo, the organization they founded, has broadened this mission, and tackled a few new ones along the way. In addition to advising pregnant women in the Jerusalem area about their options, Shilo provides family-planning counseling, dispenses birth control, performs pregnancy tests, runs workshops for students and teachers, and helps set up similar programs around the country.

HEIDI J. GLEIT

Shilo's staff to facilitate the two 12-week pilot workshops for 13- to 18-year-olds. Though Shibli and the other members of the educational staff are paid for their work, the 34 counselors who have completed a four-month course that Zack-Pakes teaches, and the two gynecologists are all volunteers.

While nearly all of the volunteer counselors are professional educators or social workers, Zack-Pakes says she mainly seeks volunteers who "are open, nonjudgmental and know how to establish a connection quickly with an adolescent. That's really, really important."

Zack-Pakes plans to open another course for new volunteers later this month.

The volunteer organization provides counseling and clinical services to some 1,200 clients a year. Of these, 80 percent are under 21.

About half of the clients come in for advice about birth control. A quarter of Shilo's clients are pregnant and interested in abortion. Zack-Pakes says 98% of them have an abortion because "most of them come in with that decision made."

However, Zack-Pakes is emphatic that Shilo is not an abortion clinic and that its goal is family planning.

"Family planning doesn't mean having fewer children: family planning can mean 10 children, but to plan it out so that it's for the best, for the woman's health, the family as a whole's health, not just physical but mental and emotional," she says.

Shilo's educational branch works to this end in various sectors of

Jerusalem. Shilo was one of the first groups to address the needs of Russian immigrants and also helped the Joint Distribution Committee plan an outreach program for Ethiopians.

One population group Shilo hasn't done outreach work in is the religious sector, Zack-Pakes says, though she adds that Shilo does have religious clients.

"There's so much work to do in the secular [sector] and we don't have enough staff. We're overworked as it is," she says.

Shilo devotes a large portion of its \$150,000 annual budget to the rent for its office on King George Street—where it is easily accessible to teens—and has a minimal paid staff.

"Our funding is not something we can rely on. Every year we have to reapply [for government and municipal funds].

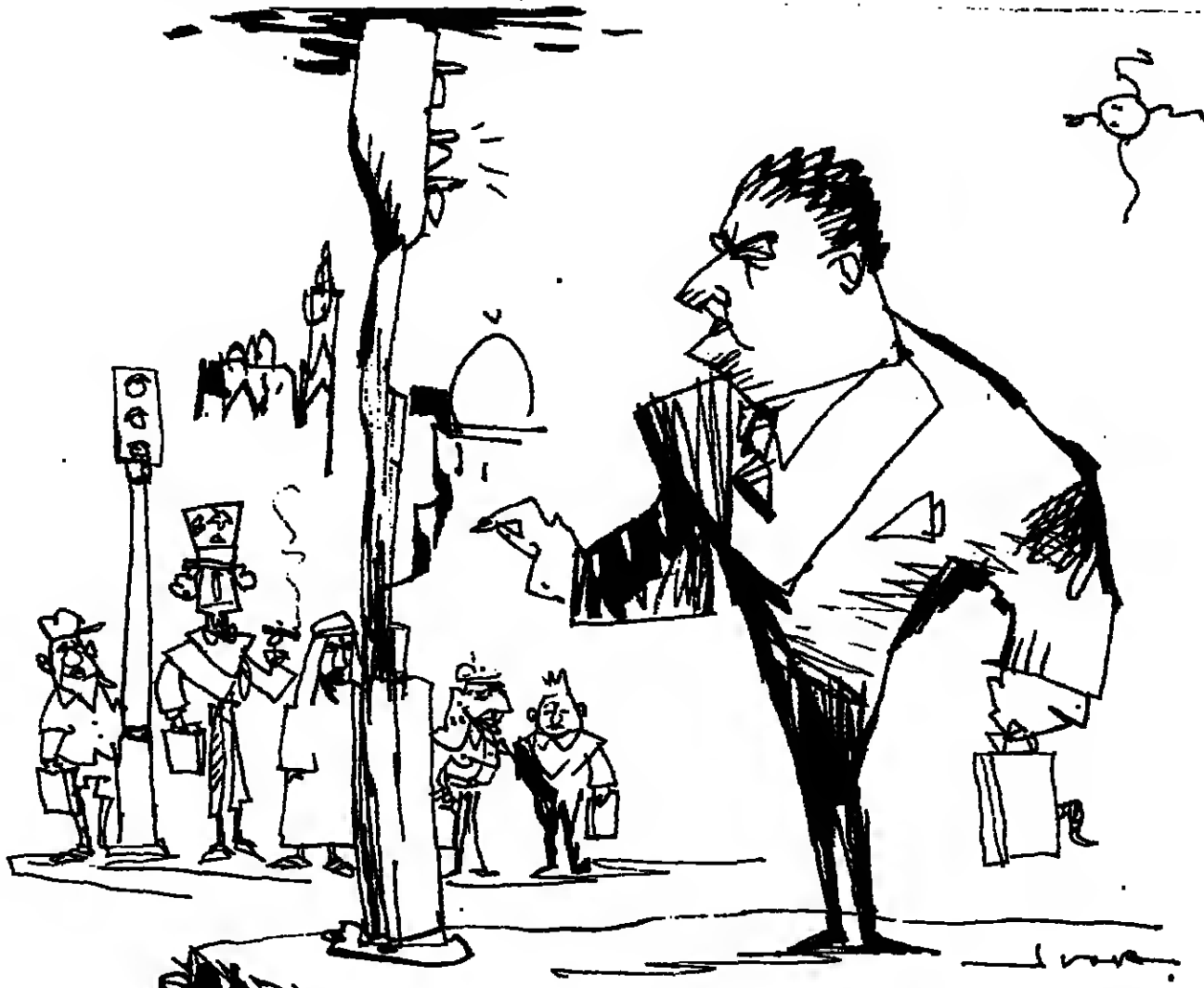
"Most of our funding comes from abroad," from organizations, family foundations and individuals, she says.

That considered, Shilo has accomplished a lot, she says proudly.

"If I look back 20 years ago, family planning wasn't on the agenda at all [and] adults wouldn't admit kids were being sexually active [and now they will].

"I still believe it has a long way to go. Family planning should be a part of the Kupat Holim service, it should be a natural part of the preventive health care one gets. [It] has a long way to go yet in Israel."

Shilo is celebrating its 20th anniversary tonight at 8:30 at the Jerusalem Cinematheque with a reception followed by the screening of *Twist and Shout*.



Business, yes; politics, no

As the Cairo Conference kicks off, Hillel Kuttler uncovers the hopes and expectations of the American participants

EGYPTIAN-Israeli tensions are fading, Israeli-Palestinian clashes were an aberration, and business, business lies awaiting.

That, at least, is the hope of US government officials and industrialists as they look toward tomorrow's opening of the Cairo regional economic conference.

Recent Middle East turmoil had them wondering, as recently as September, whether the event would even occur. Now that it is, plans are proceeding normally, they say.

"It's been a problem because the Egyptians were showing a yellow light and we didn't see a full green light until [Egyptian President Hosni] Mubarak gave the go-ahead," a US official said.

All the more reason the Clinton Administration is gratified by the record 240 American businesses and 40 chief executive officers registered.

"I think the dedication that has been demonstrated by our US companies, in light of the uncertainties about the summit, speaks volumes," US undersecretary of commerce for international trade Stuart Eizenstat told the Washington Institute for Near East Policy last week. "And quite frankly, the kinds of questions that I have gotten... from US companies [are] simply, 'Just tell us, is this summit going to happen or isn't it?'" Eizenstat said.

While the first regional conference in Casablanca two years ago was a political breakthrough, and last year's in Amman was more business-oriented, Cairo could be a turning point in steering the gathering toward a purely commercial event.

Egypt may have inadvertently contributed to that change through its decision this month to not invite heads of government—thus the renaming of the event as a conference rather than the summit it had been in 1994 and 1995. That decision followed Cairo's earlier threat to cancel or postpone the

gathering in a pique over Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's policies on the peace process.

Egypt stands to benefit most from the conference it is hosting. Four hundred of the 1,200 businessmen attending from across the world will be Egyptian, and said Cairo's ambassador to the US Ahmed Maher el-Sayed, "very honestly, we will take advantage to showcase the Egyptian economy."

American officials also believe the international business community is bound to be reassured by Egypt's structural reforms—especially in the areas of privatization, foreign ownership, and intellectual property laws—carried out by Prime Minister Kamal el-Ganzouri. "We want people to know there's been a significant effort by the Egyptian government to make it easier for companies to do business in Egypt. That's the primary reason I'm going," said Jim Brewington of Lucent Technologies, who co-chairs the Presidents' Council, formed two years ago by Clinton and Mubarak to stimulate US-Egyptian trade.

As they have done before, US State Department and Commerce Department officials made a big push to encourage American corporate executives to attend this conference. They sent out questionnaires to the American companies that expressed an interest in attending. The responses were used as "matchmaking" tools with foreign companies, and "dozens and dozens" of matches will meet in Cairo, a Commerce Department official said.

In addition, three US ambassadors to the region—Ryszard

Crocker (Kuwait), David Litt (United Arab Emirates) and Wyche Fowler (Saudi Arabia)—returned this summer to market the conference to American executives in Los Angeles, Dallas and New York.

Announcements about developments on several major regional development projects are to be made on Wednesday.

And some of the large companies represented will announce their own deals—including American Express, said James Li, the company's president for developing markets.

Some of the more ambitious regional projects have faded since Amman, leading to some frustration all around. The US Congress has yet to appropriate the funds for the Middle East Development Bank that was announced amid great fanfare last year.

A regional business council also failed to take off, as has the Middle East Travel and Tourism Association (METTA) that planned to package regional tourist destinations.

"We don't want METTA to stay stagnant," said Li, who also chairs METTA's Americas division. "What's going to have to happen is to create a general level of awareness and understanding, get governments to think of airline agreements and hotel development. What we'd really like to see is development to world-class standards. We want to make sure capacities meet increasing demand."

Ambassador Maher el-Sayed said he holds out fewer hopes for regional economic integration in light of concerns over the

Netanyahu government. Foreign businesses "will look at regional potentialities, but in my opinion there will be no progress except in bilateral [business] relations," he said. "We thought it would be important to hold [the conference] as a symbol of what is possible, but also with the understanding it will not lead to concrete results on the regional plane... The atmosphere is not conducive."

While business will dominate in ways that in Casablanca and Amman it did not, no one expects the public sector to disappear. A semi-annual meeting will take place with the trade-commerce ministers of the five countries that first met in Taba last year. At Cairo the participants are the US's Mickey Kantor, Israel's Natan Sharansky, the PA's Maher Masri, Ali Abul Raghib of Jordan, and Nawal Abdelmonem Tatawi of Egypt.

The American delegation to Cairo is being led by two departing Cabinet members: Kantor and Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

Nor can the political climate be ignored. US officials expected a deal on the IDF's Hebron redeployment to have been wrapped up by now, which would have done "a great deal to improve the environment" in Cairo, a State Department official said last week. But officials now concede that Israel and the PA are not there yet.

Business leaders, meanwhile, are hoping for future conferences to unleash economics from politics.

"I'm not forecasting any miracles. I just hope it will move forward rather than a half-step backward," said Jack Tymann, president of Westinghouse International.

"The fact we're being heard is very, very encouraging. The fact the [Israeli] election didn't go the way someone wanted it to—you can't let that set back the whole process."

Conservationists in a rut over rhinos

EARTHLY CONCERNS
D'VORA BEN SHAUL



The black rhino's prized horn is precious to poachers, who are the main source of the species' troubles. (Camera Press)

BY and large, environmentalists are a fairly cohesive lot and they tend, in most cases, to agree both on the nature of problems and on their possible or most desirable solutions.

The real exception to this rule is the people who are involved in wildlife protection. Here the differences of outlook are strong and in many cases there seems to be no area of compromise between the different opinions. This situation is clearly reflected in the situation vis-a-vis the black rhinoceros, once, even only about three or four decades ago, an animal found abundantly throughout large areas of Africa, but today reduced to a population so small that there are real fears that it may become extinct.

The main cause of this drastic decline is the value of the animal's two horns; structures that sit on the forehead and above the nasal cavity and prehensile upper lip. These so-called horns are, in actuality, very tightly coiled structures of extremely coarse hair so closely packed that they are as hard as bone.

These horns are the prize sought by poachers, because rhino horn is in high demand throughout China and southeast Asia as a medicinal product, and its current market value is higher per gram than that of gold or even platinum.

But, in order to get this prize the poachers have to kill the rhino and since only adults carry a horn large enough to be really valuable this poaching takes a drastically high toll on the adult rhino population.

Although the males have larger and therefore more valuable

horns, even the females have a horn that is of value.

Although there has been a ban on the sale of rhino horn for many years, the user countries have continually turned a blind eye to this traffic, and rhino horn can be purchased in any Asian pharmacy that deals in traditional Chinese remedies. The horn used not only for its purported aphrodisiac effect, but also as a drug to reduce fever.

According to researchers it is surprisingly effective for the latter purpose, and even shaved rhino hair has an anti-febrile quality much the same as that of aspirin.

Now, having seen that the methods to protect the rhinos that are so far in use have failed to halt the rapid rhino decline, some conser-

vationists want to see the trade legalized and rhinos ranched and their horn harvested. Surgical removal of the horns in the males does not appear to cause them any harm, and they are still valuable breeding stock. As to whether the females make less successful mothers is, as yet, an unanswered question.

But some conservationists say that cropping rhino horn may be the answer to the survival of the species. In South Africa, home of the largest rhino population today, there are several tons of rhino horn stockpiled. Most of this horn is from animals that have died of natural causes or in accidents, and some from the practice in some reserves of removing the horn surgically to discourage poachers.

However, other conservationists say that legalizing the trade will mean the end of the rhino since it is only the fear of being imprisoned or shot by rangers that keep some, possibly many, people from poaching.

Gun battles are not a rarity between rangers and poachers, and George Adams, a famous ranger and wildlife expert in Kenya, paid with his life for his anti-poaching activities.

In addition, many fear that since there is no way of identifying the source of the horns, the poachers will simply sell a bit cheaper than the legal trade and competition for horn will wipe out what's left of the rhino population.

Both sides are adamant in their approach and the reasoning of both sides has the ring of sincerity and of a real desire to protect the species. But what really is the best way of handling the problem is not clear.

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Mifal Hapayis

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Monday, November 11, 1996

Baby Bell will seek more business here

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

US-BASED Southwestern Bell Communications (SBC) intends to take part in the government's future telecom tenders, Dennis Morgan, executive vice president of the company, said yesterday.

SBC first invested in Israel in 1985. The company is a partner in the Golden Lines consortium, which recently won the Ministry of Communications' overseas telephone calls tender. In addition, the company owns 50% of the Aurek group, which is one of the leading telecommunications, information, and media services companies in the country.

Calling his company's activity so far in Israel "a great success," Morgan said SBC will continue to invest here "even if there is a slowdown in the peace process. We are not going to run away, it's not that easy to get rid of us," he said. Morgan is primarily responsible for developing SBC's business opportunities in Europe and the Middle East.

SBC's annual revenues are in excess of \$12 billion. The company's activities include cellular services and equipment, business and consumer telecom equipment, cable television interests, and directory advertising and publishing.

Overseas, SBC recently signed an agreement with Telmex, one of the world's faster-growing telephone companies, which services 8.5 million Mexican customers.

C&W wants larger Bezeq stake 'but not majority share'

DAVID HARRIS

CABLE and Wireless wants to expand its stake in Bezeq but does not seek a controlling share in the company, C&W executive director for Strategy and Corporate Business Development, Jonathan Solomon, said yesterday.

"Cable wants to increase its share in Bezeq," said Solomon. "We're not mounting a takeover, nor seeking control. There is not necessarily a correlation between share ownership and control."

The British telecommunications company currently holds 10.01 percent of the company and is the largest shareholder in the 22.9% of Bezeq already floated.

"Cable and Wireless wants to work in cooperation with Bezeq and the [Israeli] government, as we do in 55 other countries," added Solomon.

Since C&W first acquired a share in Bezeq it has been gently calling on the Israeli government to speed up its privatization program, something also requested yesterday by Koor chairman Stanley P. Gold. However, Gold said, he realizes the government is working at its own pace, and not that which is demanded by

the business community.

Solomon praised Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's vision of a liberalized, demonopolized Israel. "We are a manifestation of the Prime Minister's privatization plan," said Solomon.

In order to attract additional foreign investors to Israel, the country must welcome inward investment, he added. Britain has turned itself from a net importer to a net exporter by treating inward investors as they would domestic companies.

Three main factors now make Israel attractive to investors, according to Solomon. In addition to the imminent announcement of the sale of tens of state-owned companies, which in all probability will include Bezeq, the country now has a sophisticated capital market system, and is undergoing a period of sustained economic growth.

The latter however, was cause for disagreement from Bank of Israel governor Jacob Frenkel. During his speech at the Jerusalem Business Conference, Frenkel said Israel must

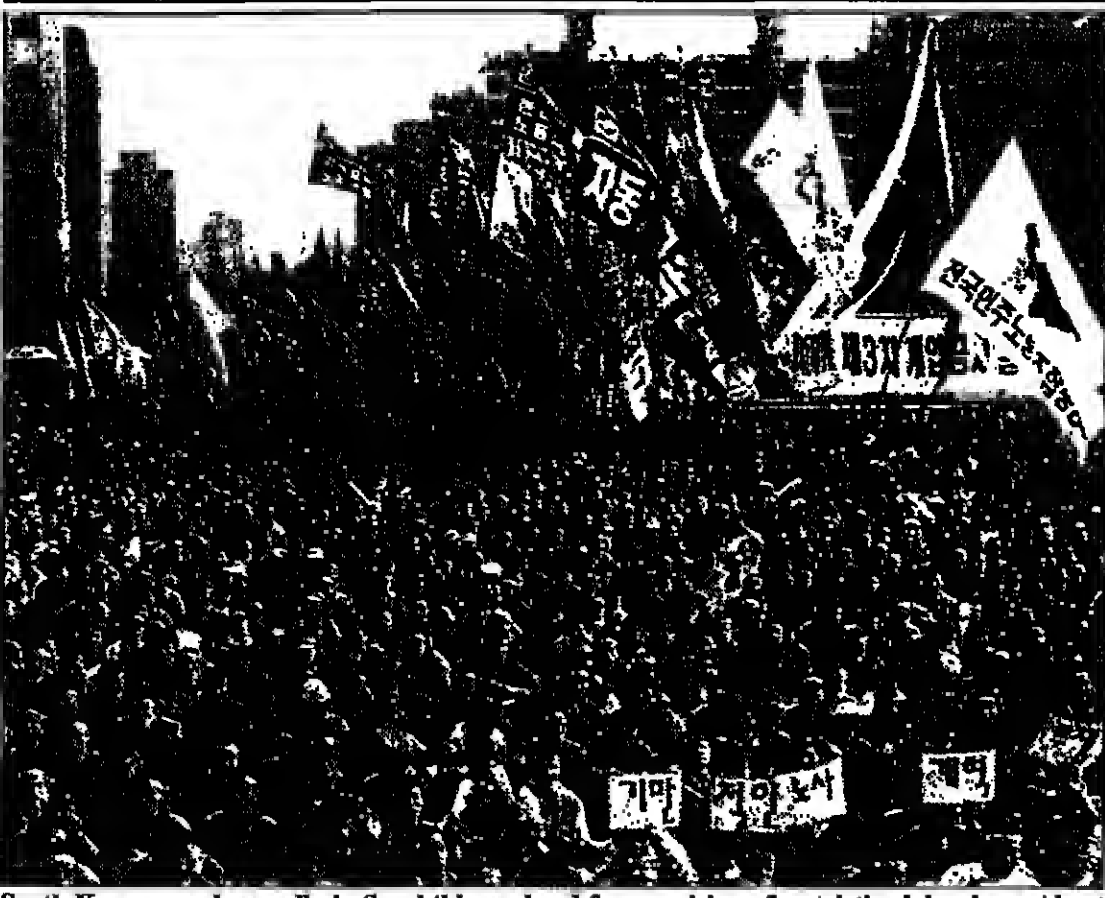
take note of the policy of British Chancellor of the Exchequer Kenneth Clarke, who recently advised against having a "boom" in growth, because, he said, this is always followed by "a bust." In Frenkel's opinion, the growth of 7% in each of the last two years has been a boom, and, he argued, Israel should begin to maintain sustainable growth.

While C&W is clearly the best-placed company to increase its interest in Bezeq, several potential foreign investors have also expressed considerable interest.

There has been considerable debate as to which method of sale should be used. One factor deterring the government from selling a controlling share is time, since it would take much longer than a share flotation, as it would require new legislation.

Such a move would displease Bezeq, which is calling for early action from the government.

"Bezeq is very much in favor of a flotation," company spokeswoman Ella Bar-Or said in late August. "The company is ready for the immediate sale of shares. We are just waiting for the government's decision."



South Korean workers rally in Seoul this weekend for a revision of restrictive labor laws. About 50,000 workers, many of them members of an outlawed union, are threatening industrial action unless their demands are met.

Carmel tunnel tender ready soon

HAIM SHAPIRO

THE tender for the Mt. Carmel tunnel complex is due to be published within a few weeks, the Transport Ministry announced yesterday.

The ministry said the tender committee, headed by director-general Nahum Langenthal, decided the tender should be issued immediately after the official publication of the plans for the tunnel, which is expected to be in the near future.

Netivei Ayalon informed the committee that the plans had been approved by the regional planning committee last month and official publication was imminent.

According to the ministry, the tender is to be distributed to five groups which have already been approved. The documents relating to the tender were approved by the government in May.

The tunnel is to pass under the crest of the Carmel, with entries and exits at Carmel Beach, the Checkpoint, and in the Central Carmel. There are to be two sets of two tunnels, with two lanes in each tunnel.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Scitex names new CFO: Scitex Corporation Ltd., the embattled manufacturer of computerized prepress and digital printing equipment, yesterday announced the appointment of Eyal Desheh as CFO.

Analysts estimate that the company will face third quarter losses, which are expected to be released within the next few days, of about \$60 million. CEO Yoav Chelouche said the company will announce its restructuring plan when it reports the quarterly results.

Commenting on the appointment, Chelouche said of Desheh that "his experience at publicly-traded, multinational corporations will be particularly valuable to Scitex."

Desheh, who is replacing Giora Bitan, joins Scitex from Bezeq, where he was vice president for business development and strategy. Prior to working for Bezeq, he was deputy CFO at Teva Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

Jennifer Friedlin

Israel, Jordan and the PA appear together at World Tourism Market: Tourism Minister Moshe Katzav is to appear together with his Jordanian counterpart Salah Rusheidat and Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij, Tourism Minister for the Palestinian Authority, at the World Tourism Market, which is to open in London tomorrow.

The WTM is among the most important of the tourism fairs held throughout the world. It is to have some 4,250 exhibitors with 680 stands, representing 150 countries. There are to be some 200 exhibitors from Israel, compared to 165 last year.

The three are to appear together at a joint press conference.

Haim Shapiro

Substantial opposition to government grant reductions: Delegations from across the economic spectrum converged on the Knesset Finance Committee yesterday to oppose a reduction in government grants under the Capital Investment Encouragement Law. Representatives of the Manufacturers Association, the hoteliers, the farmers, the Histadrut, and the Local Authorities Union all opposed the planned cut, as did the entire opposition and a good chunk of the coalition. However, the committee postponed a vote on the proposal, which would reduce the maximum grant size from 30% to 20% of a planned investment. The bill is part of the Economic Arrangements Law accompanying the budget.

Evelyn Gordon

Frenkel: Hike in minimum wage would be disastrous

DAVID HARRIS

IF the Knesset approves the proposal to increase the minimum wage from 45 percent to 50% of the average wage, this will be "a disaster" for Israel, Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel said yesterday.

Frenkel told a conference the move would "generate unemployment, hitting exactly the people the measure is meant to help."

"I am flabbergasted by some of the committees that have unambiguously supported this proposal," said the central bank governor.

The effect would be to induce businessmen to move production out of Israel to cut labor costs, he said. This would lead to widespread redundancies among the new immigrants and Arab communities the legislation is supposed to help.

Finance Ministry spokeswoman Elisheva Braun said the Treasury agrees with Frenkel.

In a fortnight, the issue will be discussed in the Knesset. The pri-

vate bill to increase the minimum wage from 45 percent to 50% of the average wage, initially introduced by four MKs, should have lapsed at the end of the last Knesset. However, the Knesset's Labor and Social Affairs Committee decided it wants to reconsider the proposal.

Finance Minister Dan Meridor opposes the recommendation, so a vote will have to take place on whether the measure should be abolished. Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai will probably vote with Meridor against the increase. Other Shas MKs probably will vote against Meridor in favor of the 5% increase. The monthly minimum wage is NIS 2,085.

Meanwhile the Central Bureau of Statistics yesterday reported the average waged family grossed NIS 8,320 a month last year, or NIS 6,470 net.

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Redemption Price: 152.15

למאן פלא כסא זכא

PRIME מריים Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 7.11.96
Purchase Price: 113.66
Redemption Price: 112.17

למאן פלא כסא זכא

UMB to sell UK, Swiss branches

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

UNITED Mizrahi Bank intends to sell its branch in Switzerland and Britain in the framework of the owners' plans to concentrate on local market activities.

The Ofer-Wertheim group, which owns UMB, expressed its intention to sell these branches since it invested in the bank, said a source. According to the source, management intends to include the sale in its business plan for next year.

But, a UMB spokesman said the board has not yet discussed the proposed sales. Chairman Muzi Wertheim was unavailable.

The bank is expected to sell the subsidiary in Switzerland first, and only at a later stage go ahead with the sale of the Loodoo branch. The decision to close down is due to a failure to "attract

enough business," said a source, explaining that "mass" is essential in foreign operations.

UMB general manager Victor Medina serves as chairman of the fully owned Swiss subsidiary.

The sale of UMB's London branch is expected to be delayed until the bank completes legal proceedings connected with the disclosure of irregularities at the branch in the third quarter of 1995. As a result of the London branch's former management failure to follow Mizrahi's credit procedures, UMB was forced to make a special provision of NIS 80 million in 1995 to cover potential bad loans.

"With all the problems, man-

agement wouldn't get a good price for the bank now," a source close to the bank said. "They may choose to slowly reduce activity."

Levy proposes ending Maman cargo monopoly

HAIM SHAPIRO

TRANSPORT Minister Yitzhak Levy announced yesterday that he will propose to the government that a second company be established to handle cargo at Ben-Gurion Airport, in addition to Maman.

Levy said this would increase competition and keep handling fees down. At present Maman's cargo bays work 24 hours a day, all year around.

Until 1991, Maman was a government company and its shares were held equally by the government and Tashat, the company for tourism enterprises and aviation services. In 1991, it was privatized and today 48 percent of the shares

are held by the public, 26% by Tashat, and 26% by Securitas, a private company.

According to ministry Director-General Nahum Langenthal, another company would lead to lower handling charges and thus improve exporters' profits. He added that the cargo area must be expanded to provide for future needs.

According to Levy, the amount of cargo sent via Ben-Gurion is to double. Maman now handles 130,000 tons of imports and 80,000 tons of industrial exports a year, with another 70,000 tons of agricultural exports handled by Agrexco.

Golden Lines to spend NIS500m. on infrastructure

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

GOLDEN Lines (Kavei Zahav), one of two consortia which last week won the government's overseas phone-call services tender, plans to invest NIS 500 million in building telecom infrastructure, heads of the group said yesterday.

Golden Lines, which won the tender along with the Barak group, said it intends to establish a satellite center in the north of the country and will install underwater fiber optics in the Mediterranean and Red seas. The company also has plans to establish two exchanges using advanced technology.

The Golden Lines group is comprised of Southwestern Bell (10.1%), Aurek (25%), Globescom (22.08%), Star-Italy (26.4%) and Caban (16.47%).

Golden Lines general manager Rami Belinkov said the company's policy is to support local industry. The company intends to employ about 200 people.

Golden Lines investments will be based on locally manufactured components and systems, said Belinkov. Among others, the company intends to work closely with its rival Bezeq.

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MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE

TENDER NO. 46/96
Temperature reference points according to ITS-90.

The National Physical Laboratory, Ministry of Trade and Industry, invites bids for the supply of temperature reference fixed points according to ITS-90. Each point will have a fitting furnace or refrigerator and will enable calibration of PRT and thermocouples in the range -40°C to 1100°C.

The systems will have maximum uncertainties of 0.5mK up to 500°C, 1mK up to 960°C and 10 mK above.

The bids will include calibration of each fix point at a national laboratory.

The bidder will indicate the level of purity of each fixed point, the temperature repeatability and the systems uncertainty, and at least one reference from a laboratory.

For additional information please contact Dr Peperno, Tel: +972-2-5664976 or Fax: +972-2-6520797.

The bid should be submitted in a sealed envelope, marked with the bid number. The envelope should be inserted into the bid box at our office, room 22, 30 Argon St., Jerusalem by 23 December, 1996.

Note: The right is reserved to negotiate with the bidder; No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid. The right is reserved to accept part of a bid.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.700	5.000	5.375
Pound sterling (£100,000)	3.675	4.000	4.250
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.412	2.625	2.125
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	1.825	1.825	1.000
Yen (10 million yen)	0.625	0.750	

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (8.11.96)

CURRENCY BASKET	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep. Rate**
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	3.6113	3.6898	3.15	3.51	3.6500
German mark	2.1279	2.1623	2.08	2.20	2.1482
Pound sterling	5.3028	5.3879	5.21	5.47	5.3898
French franc	0.6298	0.6398	0.61	0.65	0.6398
Japanese yen (100)	2.8709	2.9173	2.82	2.98	2.8978
Dutch florin	1.9887	1.9273	1.98	1.98	1.9147
Swiss franc	2.5244	2.6382	2.48	2.81	2.5491
Swedish krona	0.4851	0.4930	0.47	0.50	0.4898
Norwegian krona	0.8065	0.8147	0.49	0.53	0.6112
Danish krona	0.5535	0.5625	0.54	0.58	0.5598
Finnish mark	0.7048	0.7160	0.69	0.73	0.7115
Canadian dollar	2.4142	2.4392	2.37	2.49	2.4408
Australian dollar	2.5288	2.5708	2.48	2.61	2.5501
S. African rand	0.8852	0.8983	0.82	0.87	0.8820
Belgian franc (10)	1.0380	1.0487	1.01	1.07	1.0428
Austrian schilling (10)	3.0243	3.0781	2.97	3.12	3.0588
Italian lira (1000)	2.1123	2.1484	2.07	2.16	2.1515
Jordanian dinar	4.4800	4.7700	4.48	4.77	4.6078
Egyptian pound	0.9100	0.9800	0.91	0.99	1.0584
ECU	4.0737	4.1398	—	—	4.1180
Irish punt	5.3083	5.3815	5.21	5.47	5.3807
Spanish peseta (100)	2.6386	2.6873	2.48	2.61	2.6514

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Precious metal higher dollar weaker COMMODITY ROUND-UP

Olivetti sells stake in Omnite to Mannesmann

Key Representative Rates
U.S. Dollar NIS 2.245
Sterling NIS 5.2978
German Mark NIS 2.1482

Norfolk Southern raises bid for Conrail to \$10b.

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Raising the stakes in the escalating battle for Conrail Inc., Norfolk Southern Corp. Friday sweetened its hostile bid for the railroad to \$10 billion in cash.

whom already have expressed dissatisfaction with the CSX deal. Industry sources also said Conrail was unlikely to be swayed from its planned merger with CSX.

strengthen its position by aggressively urging Conrail shareholders to defeat the CSX transaction. "It's got to be like Bob Dole's marathon, but with a more successful conclusion," said one, referring to the 96-hour campaign blitz launched by the losing presidential candidate in the days before this week's election.

Shares drop, led down by Teva, Bezeq

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ROBERT DANIEL



SHARE indexes dropped in quiet trading, led down by Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. and Bezeq.

said Teva also received two clearances for drugs from the US Food and Drug Administration in that period.

Traders and investors were indifferent to yesterday's Jerusalem Business Conference and the economic summit set for Cairo this week, analysts said.

Teva's ordinary shares were the most active in Tel Aviv today, slipping 0.25% on trading of NIS 5.9m.

Pope urges solution to Third World debt

VATICAN CITY (Reuters) - Pope John Paul said Friday that heavy debt was stifling nascent democracies in the Third World and he urged the international community to help solve the problem as a Christian act in the run-up to the year 2000.

Kodak sues employees for technology theft

ROCHESTER, N.Y. (Reuters) - Eastman Kodak Co. said Friday it was suing two former employees, a research center supervisor and a developmental engineer, for allegedly stealing and selling "tens of millions" of dollars worth of its photography technology to competitors.

long probe by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the US Attorney's office, Blamphin said. He said the probe, which continues, was begun at the request of the company.

Dubai unveils five-year development plan

DUBAI (Reuters) - United Arab Emirates member state Dubai on Saturday unveiled its first five-year economic plan which aims at five percent annual growth, a bigger ooo-oil sector and reduced reliance on expatriate labor.

improve investment policies and provide better information, including economic statistics. He said infrastructure needed to be upgraded and human resources developed.

Precious metals higher on dollar's weakness COMMODITIES ROUND-UP

PRECIOUS metals futures closed mostly higher Friday, with further weakness in the US dollar against major currencies, in particular the Japanese Yen in foreign exchange markets, supporting December gold and the rest of the precious metals complex.

Multi-sided trading

Table with columns: Name, Price, % Change. Lists various stocks under Commercial Banks, Industrials, Mortgage Banks & Finance, Financial Institutions, Insurance, Trade & Services.

Two-sided trading

Table with columns: Name, Price, % Change. Lists various stocks under Afternoon and Morning sessions.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Table with columns: Name, Price, % Change. Lists various stocks under Afternoon and Morning sessions.

Olivetti sells stake in Omnitel to Mannesmann

MILAN (Reuters) - Italy's Olivetti reached a deal with German engineering and telecom company Mannesmann AG Friday in sell a 5.8 percent stake in Italian mobile phone operator Omnitel Pronto Italia.

Coffee-producing nations seek to keep squeeze on supply

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (Reuters) - Coffee-producing nations met Saturday, seeking to keep control of coffee supplies as consumers scrambled for stocks.

The cartel groups the globe's biggest producer nations and the 14-member council accounts for more than 80 percent of world output, though a handful of medium-sized roaster producer nations, such as Mexico and Guatemala, are not members.

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RACE IS ON - Scotland's Darren Jackson (r) and Sweden's Joachim Bjorklund chase a loose ball in last night's World Cup qualifying match in Glasgow. Scotland won 1-0. (Reuters)

Cyprus beats lifeless Israel

A VERY poor showing by the national soccer team in Limassol yesterday in which the Israelis lost 2-0 to Cyprus, has brought the high-flying team down to earth with a thud and has put its World Cup qualification hopes in serious jeopardy.

Two first-half goals by Serbian-born Sinica Gogic were enough to sink Israel, which looked a shadow of its former self. There is no question that the result rightly reflected the difference between the two sides yesterday, and not even the 2,000 or so supporters who flew out specially to support Israel could do anything to change the miserable night the visitors were having.

Perhaps the only consolation Israel can draw from last night's match is that neither Bulgaria or group leaders Russia will find it easy to play the Cypriots on their home soil, so another upset is possible and the Israelis, if they can return to winning ways, can be aided by such an upset.

Cyprus took control from the kickoff and played an excellent defensive game, placing tight marking on Eyal Berkowitz, Ronnie Rosenthal and Haim Revivo. Their excellent reading of the game also allowed the whole side to close down any open spaces and not allow Berkowitz or captain Tal Banin to develop any organized moves. Every time the Israelis tried to pass the ball, a Cypriot player would be there to cut out any

buildup.

For their part, the Cypriots also managed to put together some constructive moves of their own and were obviously used to the poor state of the pitch, which made accurate passing very difficult. Gogic looked very dangerous from the outset and already tested Rafi Cohen in the fourth minute as Israel's defense looked shaky.

With only 10 minutes gone, Cyprus struck for the first time when Gogic hacked away from Felix Halfon on the right and headed down a perfect cross from Marios Christodoulou who broke into the area from the left.

Cohen in the Israeli goal had no chance of stopping the ball as Gogic rose high from seven meters out and guided the ball perfectly between the keeper and the dead post.

Just five minutes later, Cohen must have had *deja vu* as he dived at Gogic from behind and brought him down. Romanian referee Gheorghe Constantin had no hesitation in pointing to the spot and Cohen's nightmare from the game against Bulgaria - when he committed an almost identical foul - was repeated.

The bad dream was completed for a second time, for as against Bulgaria, the Israeli keeper failed to stop Gogic's well-taken penalty which was struck hard to the middle of the goal.

The Israeli defense was again at fault, as it failed to close down the empty spaces, and Halfon, in particular, was having a very bad night.

Cyprus would have made it 3-0 in the 26th minute, had not Alon Hazan intervened to clear a ball from the feet of Demetris Ioannu who was about to pop the ball in from close range. The shaky defense caused Israel coach Shlomo Scharf to make two very early substitutions, taking off Halfon and David Amsalem in the 35th minute and bringing on defender Arif Bennado and prolific striker Ronen Harazi to try to find a way past the Cypriot defense.

The change shored up the defense, as Rosenthal, Nimni and Banin each took turns to fill the right back position, which was vacated by the hapless Halfon. Harazi up front, on the other hand, was unable to make inroads past the Cypriot defense which was well marshalled by captain Pambos Pittas.

Only Nimni managed to recreate some of his penetrating runs, but even when a move was put together, some excellent work by goalkeeper Nicos Panayiotou kept the Israelis at bay. For the home team, the second half was all about sitting on its lead. The Cypriots played a more defensive game and even though Israel was allowed much more leeway in the

center of the park which led to some dangerous moves, the finishing touch simply wasn't there. Panayiotou thwarted several shots at goal, but the moves which Israel put together, particularly from the feet of Berkowitz, simply didn't have the conviction needed when a team is fighting to save the situation from 2-0 down.

Scharf tried to bolster the attack even more by bringing on Drakis for Rosenthal with 15 minutes to go, but by that time Israel had thrown caution to the wind and the Cypriots conceded several corners and free kicks but to no avail.

Earlier in the day, Israel's under-21 side drew 1-1 with its Cypriot counterpart, Idan Tal scoring for Israel.

Israel's next match is against Luxembourg at Ramat Gan on December 15.

Yesterday's results - GROUP 1: Slovenia 1, Bosnia 2. GROUP 3: Norway 1, Switzerland 0. GROUP 4: Scotland 1, Sweden 0. GROUP 5: Russia 4, Luxembourg 0. GROUP 6: Yugoslavia 1, Czech Republic 0. GROUP 7: Turkey 7, San Marino 0. GROUP 8: Ireland 0, Iceland 0.

1996 World Cup European qualifying group 5

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts.
Russia	3	2	1	0	4	1	7
Israel	3	1	1	1	3	3	3
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	2	4	3
Cyprus	2	1	0	1	2	4	3
Luxembourg	2	0	0	2	1	6	0

Holyfield stops Tyson

LAS VEGAS (AP) - Evander Holyfield wasn't shocked. But most of the screaming fans were, and Mike Tyson certainly was.

There was Iron Mike on the canvas in the sixth round.

There he was being saved by the bell in the 10th.

And there he was helpless against the ropes in the 11th when referee Mitch Halpern stopped the shocking upset that made Holyfield a heavyweight champion for the third time.

Shades of Buster Douglas.

Although this upset might not be considered as great as the one James "Buster" Douglas scored when he knocked out Tyson in the 10th round in Tokyo in February 1990, it was a dandy. And it will be talked about whenever boxing fans reminisce.

Like that fight six years ago, Tyson needed a knockout to win. He almost pulled one off against Douglas with an eighth-round knockdown, but he didn't come close against Holyfield.

"The man was out. I stopped it because he was hurt," Halpern said after Holyfield landed nine punches to the head that left Tyson helpless against the ropes. He stopped it after 37 seconds.

Only the bell saved Tyson from being knocked out in the previous round. Had it rung a second or two later, he might well have been down and out.

At the end of 10 rounds, judges Jerry Roth and Dalby Shirley each had Holyfield ahead 96-92. Frederico Volmer of Venezuela had Holyfield leading 100-93. The AP card favored Holyfield 97-91.

The 34-year-old Holyfield had guaranteed a victory. Most boxing observers and media members



HITTING THE DECK - Mike Tyson goes down in the sixth round. Evander Holyfield won the heavyweight title for the third time. (Reuters)

scuffed. In fact, many thought Holyfield shouldn't even have attempted to fight.

But the man who had retired briefly in 1994 after a diagnosed heart problem was cleared to fight by the Mayo Clinic, which examined him strenuously for the Nevada State Athletic Commission.

There was obviously nothing wrong with Holyfield's heart

Saturday night, in fact, there's never been a question of heart when it comes to Holyfield's courage.

"Holyfield fought a good fight," Tyson said. "I take my hat off to him. I look forward to a rematch."

Holyfield joined Muhammad Ali as the only fighters to win at least a piece of the heavyweight title three times.

Arditi leads Bnei Herzliya past Hapoel Jerusalem

BNEI HERZLIYA pulled off the coup of last night's eighth-round of the National Basketball League by conquering hosts Hapoel Jerusalem 82-69.

Jerusalem remains at the top of the league with 14 points.

Herzliya won the game by virtue of a rock-like defense in the first half which kept its normally high-scoring opponents down to a mediocre 27 points.

The visitors' two big men, Amir Mukhtari and Ofer Fleischer ruled under the baskets and also played a big part in the unexpected victory. Herzliya's offensive aces were Lior Arditi (23) and Terrence Stainsbury (22) Both hit four three-pointers. Mukhtari contributed 15.

Except for a short period midway through the second half, Jerusalem never looked in the game.

Billy Thompson sank 17. Moti Daniel 14 and a subdued, well-defended Adi Gordon 13 (all in the second half).

Maccabi Ramat Gan 98 Hapoel Safed 89

The visitors dominated every phase of the game and led by 21 points for most of the game. John

Joel Gordin

McIntyre scored 21 and Corey Williams 18. Erez Hazan hit 28 for Safed, a team which is obviously suffering from motivational problems.

Maccabi Ra'anana 102 Hapoel Tel Aviv 67

The Ussishkin team lost at home by a massive 35 points. Ra'anana's Paul Thompson (30), Mark Brisker (21), Tomer Steinhauer (21) and Rotem Ehrlich (18) did what they pleased on the court.

For Tel Aviv, Dimitri Hill hit for 20, while the other foreign player Michael Lloyd notched more fouls than points.

Hapoel Holon 93 Hapoel Galil Elyon 75

Derek Hamilton (20 points) was the star of Holon's big victory over the visitors from the north. He was ably backed up by Milton Wagner (17) and Kobi Baloul (15).

For Galil, the evergreen Andrew Kennedy hit for 21 points and snatched six rebounds

Givat Shmuel 82 Hapoel Eilat 73

The visitors from the south could not repeat their great triumph last week when they humbled Maccabi Tel Aviv in the State Cup. Eilat actually was in front at the start, but dropped back after the home team's Sharon Sharkazi lead a counter-attack.

For the winners, Gerald Paddio scored 25 and Sharkazi 15. For Eilat, big veteran Joe Dawson thumped in 28 and Meir Tappin 17. The eighth-round ends tonight with Maccabi Tel Aviv at home against Maccabi Rishon LeZion.

Maccabi Tel Aviv is the only undefeated team in the league at 6-0

National Basketball League

	W	L	Pts.
Hapoel Jerusalem	6	2	14
Hapoel Holon	5	3	13
Maccabi Tel Aviv	6	0	12
Hapoel Galil Elyon	5	2	12
Givat Shmuel	4	4	12
Maccabi Rishon	4	3	11
Hapoel Eilat	3	5	11
Maccabi Ra'anana	3	5	11
Maccabi Ramat Gan	3	4	10
Hapoel Tel Aviv	2	6	10
Bnei Herzliya	3	4	9
Hapoel Safed	1	7	9

*Herzliya has been deducted 1 point.

Karnataka 87 for 4 vs. South Africa (243) at close

COCHIN (Reuters) - India's Ranji Trophy champions Karnataka were 87 for four at close of play on the first day of the three-day game against South Africa yesterday. South Africa had scored 243 for nine.

South Africa first innings: A.Hudson c Arun Kumar b Ganesh 9 G.Kirsten c David b Johnson 21 D.Cullinan b Johnson 9 H.Gibbs c Bhardwaj b Ananth 14 J.Rhodes b Ananth 46 H.Cronje c Arun Kumar b Ananth 45 O.Crookes c Shriraguppi b Katti 45 Total (for four wickets) 87

To bat: S.Shriraguppi, D.Ganesh, N.Boje c Arun Kumar b Katti 0 L.Kusener not out 32 A.Donald c Ganesh b Johnson 8 Extras (b-1 lb-1 nb-4 w-2) 8

Total 243

Fall of wickets: 1-12 2-34 3-41 4-86 5-126 6-198 7-198 8-200 9-214.

Bowling: Johnson 13.1-78-3 (1nb,1w), Ganesh 13-1-50-1 (1nb,1w), Katti 10-2-43-2, Ananth 17-0-72-4

Karnataka first innings: S.Somasundar c Gibbs b Kusener 7 J.Arun Kumar c Crookes b Kusener 0 F.Khaleel ibw b Donald 32 V.Bhardwaj c Crookes b Cronje 9 R.Oavid batting 17 P.Shashikanth batting 17 Extras (b-1 lb-3 nb-2) 8 Total (for four wickets) 87

To bat: S.Shriraguppi, D.Ganesh, N.Ananth, O.Johnson, A.Katti, 0

Fall of wickets: 1-2 2-11 3-40 4-53

Bowling (to date): Donald 11-4-30-1; Kusener 9-1-21-2 (1nb), Boje 9-4-16-6.

Heather Chell

Eyal wins men's satellite

EYAL Erlich justified his top ranking yesterday in the final of the first leg of the men's satellite at Ramat Hasharon by beating Pan Nelson defeated Slovakia Petra Rampre 6-4, 3-6, 6-2 in the second leg of the satellite

which began in Jaffa yesterday. Erlich is again the No. 1 seed.

In the \$25,000 Margjorie Sherman women's challenge, Pam Nelson defeated Slovakia Petra Rampre 6-4, 3-6, 6-2 in the final.

Joseph Hoffman, Sports Editor

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Deri: Money was loan repayment, not bribe

EVELYN GORDON

THE money which Yom Tov Rubin allegedly paid Shas leader Aryeh Deri in bribes was merely a repayment of money Deri had previously lent him, Deri told Jerusalem District Court yesterday.

Deri, who is charged with bribe-taking, fraud, breach of trust, and falsifying corporate documents, took the stand as the first defense witness in his three-year-old trial. His testimony will continue today.

According to the indictment, Deri received more than \$150,000 from Rubin and Moshe and Aryeh Weinberg between 1985 and 1990, in exchange for using his influence at the Interior Ministry to help various associations in which the four were involved.

However, Deri insisted that all the payments he received were simply reimbursements for loans he had made.

Deri explained that many people associated with the Lev Banim Yeshiva, where he and the other three all worked in the early 1980s, used Rubin as their "banker". People would "deposit" money with him, which he would use for various charitable purposes; when they wanted their money back, he would repay them on demand with funds borrowed from other people.

This constant rollover of loans by Rubin was in fact the only source of funding for Lev Banim, other than the 15 percent-20% of the institute's budget which came from the Religious Affairs Ministry, Deri said - with the result, he noted, that the yeshiva's debt to Rubin's "depositors" grew at an alarming rate.

Banking with Rubin had two advantages, Deri said. First of all, it preserved the real value of one's money during those days of hyperinflation, since Rubin repaid his "loans" with linkage. Secondly, he said, people felt they were doing a good deed, since they trusted Rubin to use the money for worthy causes



MK Aryeh Deri sits at the defense table in Jerusalem District Court yesterday.

while it was in his possession.

Furthermore, Deri said, people trusted Rubin absolutely to return the money as soon as they asked. Deri said he initially requested receipts for his "deposits," which he would return upon repayment, but dropped the practice when he found that no one else did so. Everyone just relied on Rubin's own records of the loans.

"I deposited money with Yom Tov Rubin for many years before Shas was even founded," Deri said, adding that he is convinced that if this could be proven, it would torpedo the case against

him.

Rubin was unable to produce his loan records during the police investigation. Deri said Rubin did finally locate them shortly after the indictment was prepared, but Deri's attorney, Dan Avi-Yitzhak, refused to let him submit them to the attorney-general Yusef Harish at a pre-indictment hearing. They will presumably be submitted by the defense at some point.

Deri also denied using his influence to help Lev Banim after he became special assistant to interior minister Yitzhak Peretz in 1985, even though he was part of

the ministry's three-man allocations committee.

"In this entire period of eight months, Lev Banim never asked me [for help], and I never recommended them [to the committee]," he said. "[Lev Banim] didn't get a penny."

Deri also spoke at length about his financial relationship with his wife Yaffa's adoptive parents, Isser and Esther Werderber.

When he first began looking for a wife, Deri said, he flatly refused to consider being set up with any girl who could not finance the wedding, provide an apartment, and maintain him for several

years while he continued to study in yeshiva.

In fact, he initially rejected a friend's suggestion that he date Yaffa, because her finances did not appear to meet his demands. Only six months later, when another friend suggested her and gave him details of her adoptive parents' promises of financial assistance, did he agree to go out with her. After determining both that he liked Yaffa and that these promises of financial assistance appeared solid, he proposed, and the couple got married in January 1981.

According to Deri, the

Werderbers sent the young couple cash at random intervals, generally a few thousand dollars at a time. Attorney Navot Telzur showed the court a copy of Deri's bank statement for the first 18 months of their marriage, which included occasional cash deposits ranging from \$700 to \$12,000; Deri said these all came from the Werderbers.

"I had no other source of money during this period," he said.

However, the Werderbers failed to provide everything Deri was expecting. They were initially supposed to buy the young couple their first apartment, but Isser Werderber had a stroke about a month before the wedding, and the apartment never materialized. The Deris wound up spending their first few months in an apartment belonging to Yaffa's deceased natural father, then moved to a caravan in the new settlement of Ma'aleh Anava. Later, the Werderbers did provide \$33,000 for an apartment in Ramot, which the Deris moved into in mid-1983.

Not long after they had bought the Ramot apartment, however, Deri ran into Moshe Weinberg, an old friend from before his marriage, when they were both learning in Hebron Yeshiva. Weinberg was marketing plots of land for a new neighborhood in Nahi Samuel, and Deri signed up for two. One was supposed to be for his father, Deri said, and his father put up the money, but insisted on registering it in Deri's name.

Deri intended the other plot for a large house, which would hold both his own young family and the Werderbers, who had long expressed interest in coming to Israel and living with Yaffa. He was confident that the Werderbers would provide the money, he said; however, they refused. When he then told his father that he would have to give up the land because the Werderbers had refused the money, his father gave him money for the second plot as well, Deri said.

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New York	11	52	rain
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Seoul	10	50	rain
Tokyo	10	50	rain

Winning Cards

The winning cards in yesterday's Chance daily card draw were the seven of spades, nine of hearts, king of diamonds and king of clubs.

Labor's central committee to decide timing of leadership battle

LABOR's central committee, which is due to convene at the end of the month, will determine whether to hold the party's leadership showdown next June, soon after the party convention, or to postpone it, the party's executive decided yesterday.

Labor Chairman Shimon Peres said the issue will be determined under the party constitution.

The party leadership failed to reach a compromise on the party agenda and the date of the primaries for Labor's leadership at yesterday's executive meeting.

Peres - supported by several MKs including Haim Ramon and Efraim Sneh, who is running for the leadership - wants to postpone the leadership showdown for a year or two.

MK Ehud Barak, who also is

MICHAL YUDELMAN

running for the leadership, insists on having the showdown next June, in accordance with the constitution, which specifies that the primaries must be held no later than 14 months after the party's election defeat.

Barak is convinced that Labor must elect its leader as soon as possible, so that if national elections are advanced Labor would not be caught without an elected leadership.

Barak says he believes that postponing the leadership showdown will weaken the party, which will not be able to reorganize and prepare for the next elections until it has a new leadership.

Barak's supporters said Peres is interested in putting the primaries

off in the hope of being asked to join a national unity government during 1997 and thus remaining the party leader indefinitely.

Peres met Barak, Ramon, Soeh and party secretary-general MK Nissim Zivili yesterday morning to discuss the issue. All they could agree on was to hold the party convention next spring.

Both camps described the decision to transfer all the issues in question to the central committee as a victory. Barak's people said the decision means that the leadership showdown will be held next June, as Barak demands.

Peres's supporters noted that the convention, in which they believe they have a majority, has the authority to postpone the leadership showdown if such a proposal is raised in it.

Nasrallah slams Germany over Arad

BEIRUT (AP) - Hizbullah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah said yesterday that Germany shows little concern for Lebanese held prisoner by Israel, while it makes great efforts to free missing Israeli airman Ron Arad.

Nasrallah also repeated his group's assertion that it has no evidence on Arad's whereabouts. Israel believes Arad, who was captured by pro-Iranian Shi'ite

gunmen after his Phantom was forced down over south Lebanon 10 years ago, is alive and being held by Iran.

Bernd Schmidbauer, a top German intelligence official, visited Lebanon and Israel last month and twice met with Nasrallah about a possible swap of Lebanese prisoners for Arad or for word on his fate.

Speaking to a rally in south

Beirut to mark Hizbullah's Martyrs Day, Nasrallah scoffed at German interest in the Israeli captive, while Lebanese detainees languish in Israeli prisons.

"This makes us laugh and cry... What about our prisoners?" he asked.

Israel holds 112 Lebanese in the Khiam prison camp in the security zone and an additional number in jails in Israel.

Bronfman regrets meeting Farrakhan

ALTHOUGH most Jewish leaders have firmly rejected invitations to meet with Louis Farrakhan, Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, sat down with the head of the Nation of Islam. Then he thought better of it.

"Leopards don't change their spots, and this man is evil personified," Bronfman wrote in a letter to Abraham Foxman, head of the Anti-Defamation League. "Looking back, your position has been reinforced. No self-respecting person, let alone a Jew, should have anything to do with him."

ADL has refused to meet with Farrakhan until

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

he publicly distances himself from antisemitism.

It is not known when the Bronfman-Farrakhan meeting took place, but it was thought to be around the time of last month's "World Day of Atonement," which drew more than 20,000 people to a rally in New York. There was also one subsequent meeting, between an executive of the Bronfman-controlled Seagram company, and Farrakhan's son-in-law, who is an official with the Nation of Islam, sources said.

The original meeting was brokered by Mike Wallace, a veteran reporter for the television news magazine *60 Minutes*, who thought Farrakhan was sincere in trying to build bridges to Jewish community, sources said. Other groups that Wallace approached declined.

Bronfman's spokesman at the World Jewish Congress was unavailable yesterday to comment on the meeting, made public by Foxman.

"The end result is what's important," a source said. "Farrakhan didn't change [his antisemitic views] and Edgar acknowledged that no one should meet with him."

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